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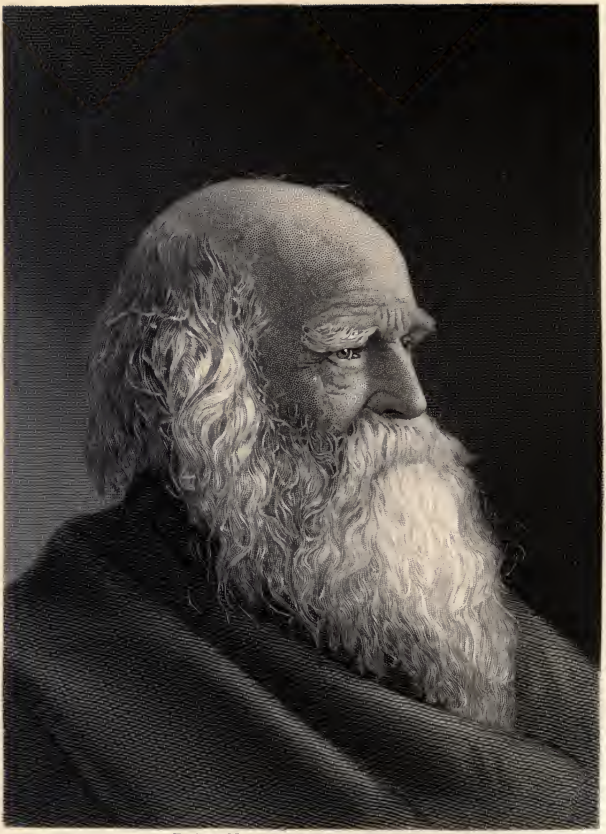

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William Cullen Bryant

From a Photograph by Sarony, Tuskin in 1873

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CHRONOLOGIES OF THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF

WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT

WITH A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF HIS WORKS IN PROSE AND VERSE

COMPILED BY

HENRY C. STURGES

TO WHICH IS PREFIXED A MEMOIR OF THE POET BY

RICHARD HENRY STODDARD

NEW YORK
D. APPLETON AND COMPANY
1903

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LOS ANGELES

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Published September, 1903.

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MEMOIR.

By RICHARD HENRY STODDARD.

MEMOIR.

THE ancestry of William Cullen Bryant might have been inferred from the character of his writings, which reflect whatever is best and noblest in the life and thought of New England. It was a tradition that the first Bryant of whom there is any account in the annals of the New World came over in the Mayflower, but the tradition is not authenticated. What is known of this gentleman, Mr. Stephen Bryant, is that he came over from England, and that he was at Plymouth, Massachusetts, as early as 1632. He married Abigail Shaw, who had emigrated with her father, and who bore him several children between 1650 and 1665, it is to be presumed at Plymouth, of which town he was chosen constable in 1663. Stephen Bryant had a son named Ichabod, who was the father of Philip Bryant, who was born in 1732. Philip Bryant married Silence Howard, the daughter of Dr. Abiel Howard, of West Bridgewater, whose profession he adopted, being a practitioner in medicine in North Bridgewater. He was the father of nine children, one of whom, Peter Bryant, born in 1767, succeeded

him in his profession. Young Dr. Bryant became enamored of Miss Sarah Snell, the daughter of Mr. Ebenezer Snell, of Bridgewater, who removed his family to Cummington, whither he was followed by his future son-in-law, who married the lady of his love in 1792. Two years later, on the 3d of November, there was born to him a man-child, who was to win, and to leave,

> "One of the few immortal names
> That were not born to die."

Dr. Bryant was proud of his profession; and in the hope, no doubt, that his son would become a shining light therein, he perpetuated at his christening the name of a great medical authority, who had departed this life four years before—William Cullen. Dr. Bryant was the last of his family to practise the healing art; for Nature, wiser than he, early determined the future course of Master William Cullen Bryant. He was not to be a doctor, but a poet. A poet, that is, if he lived to be anything; for the chances were against his living at all. The lad was exceedingly frail, and had a head the immensity of which troubled his anxious father. How to reduce it to the normal size was a puzzle which Dr. Bryant solved in a spring of clear, cold water, which burst out of the ground on or near his homestead, and into which the child was immersed every morning, head and all, by two of Dr. Bryant's students—kicking lustily, we may be sure, at this matutinal dose of hydropathy.

William Cullen Bryant came of Mayflower stock, his mother being a descendant of John Alden; and the characteristics

of his family included some of the sterner qualities of the Puritans. Grandfather Snell was a magistrate, and, without doubt, a severe one, for the period was not one which favored leniency to criminals. The whipping-post was still extant in Massachusetts, and the poet remembered that it stood about a mile from his early home at Cummington, and that he once saw a young fellow of eighteen who had received forty lashes as a punishment for a theft he had committed. It was, he thought, the last example of corporal punishment inflicted by law in that neighborhood, though the whipping-post remained in its place for several years, a possible terror to future evil-doers. "Spare the rod, spoil the child," was the Draconian code then; and the rod, in the shape of a little bundle of birchen twigs, bound together with a small cord, was generally suspended on a nail against the wall in the kitchen, and was as much a part of the necessary furniture as the crane that hung in the fireplace or the shovel and tongs.

Magistrate Snell was a disciplinarian of the stricter sort; and as he and his wife resided with Dr. Bryant and his family, the latter stood in awe of him, so much so that young William Cullen was prevented from feeling anything like affection for him. It was an age of repression, not to say oppression, for children, who had few rights that their elders were bound to respect. To the terrors of the secular arm were added the deeper terrors of the spiritual law, for the people of that primitive period were nothing if not religious. The minister was the great man, and his bodily presence was a restraint upon the unruly, and the ruly too, for that matter. The lines of our an-

cestors did not fall in pleasant places as far as recreations were concerned; for they were few and far between, consisting, for the most part, of militia musters, "raisings," corn-huskings, and singing-schools, diversified with the making of maple sugar and cider. Education was confined to the three R's, though the children of wealthy parents were sent to colleges as they now are. It was not a genial social condition, it must be confessed, to which William Cullen Bryant was born, though it might have been worse but for his good father, who was in many respects superior to his rustic neighbors. A broad-shouldered, muscular gentleman, proud of his strength, his manners were gentle and reserved, his disposition was serene, and he was fond of society. He was not without political distinction, for he was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives for several terms, and afterward to the State Senate, and he associated with the cultivated circles of Boston both as a legislator and a physician.

William Cullen Bryant was fortunate in his father, who, if he was disappointed when he found that his son was born to be a follower of Apollo and not of Æsculapius, kept his disappointment to himself, and encouraged the lad in his poetical attempts. We have the authority of the poet himself that his father taught his youth the art of verse, and that he offered him to the Muses in the bud of life. His first efforts were several clever "Enigmas," in imitation of the Latin writers, a translation from Horace, and a copy of verses which were written in his twelfth year, to be recited at the close of the winter school, "in the presence of the Master, the Minister of

the parish, and a number of private gentlemen." They were printed on the 18th of March, 1807, in the *Hampshire Gazette*, from which these particulars are derived, and which was favored with other contributions from the pen of "C. B."

The juvenile poems of William Cullen Bryant are as clever as those of Chatterton, Pope, and Cowley; but they are in no sense original, and it would have been strange if they had been. There was no original writing in America at the time they were written; and if there had been, it would hardly have commended itself to the old-fashioned taste of Dr. Bryant, to whom Pope was still a power in poetry, as Addison, no doubt, was in prose. It was natural, therefore, that he should offer his boy to the strait-laced Muses of Queen Anne's time; that the precocious boy should lisp in heroic couplets, and that he should endeavor to be satirical. Politics were running high in the first decade of the present century, and the favorite bugbear in New England was President Jefferson, who in 1807 had laid an embargo on American shipping, in consequence of the decrees of Napoleon, and the British orders in council in relation thereto. This act was denounced, and by no one more warmly than by Master Bryant, who made it the subject of a satire, which was published in Boston in 1808. It was entitled "The Embargo; or, Sketches of the Times," and was printed for the purchasers, who were found in sufficient numbers to exhaust the first edition. It is said to have been well received, but doubts were expressed as to whether the author was really a youth of thirteen. His friends came to his rescue in an "Advertisement," which was prefixed to a second edition of

his little *brochure*, published in the following year, and certified to his age from their personal knowledge of himself and his family. They also certified to his extraordinary talents, though they should prefer to have him judged by his works, without favor or affection. They concluded by stating that the printer was authorized to disclose their names and places of residence.

The early poetical exercises of William Cullen Bryant, like those of all young poets, were colored by the books which he read. Among these were the works of Pope, as I have already intimated, and, no doubt, the works of Cowper and Thomson. The latter, if they were in the library of Dr. Bryant, do not appear to have impressed his son at this time; nor, indeed, does any English poet except Pope, so far as we can judge from his contributions to the *Hampshire Gazette*, which were continued from time to time. They were bookish and patriotic; one, which was written at Cummington on the 8th of January, 1810, being "The Genius of Columbia;" and another, "An Ode for the Fourth of July, 1812," to the tune of "Ye Gentlemen of England." These productions are undeniably clever, but they are not characteristic of their writer, nor of the nature which surrounded his birthplace, with which he was familiar, and of which he was a close observer, as his poetry was soon to disclose.

He entered Williams College, in Williamstown, Mass., in his sixteenth year, and remained there until 1812, distinguishing himself for aptness and industry in classical learning and polite literature. At the end of two years he withdrew, and com-

menced the study of law, first with Judge Howe, of Worthington, and afterward with Mr. William Baylies, of Bridgewater. So far he had written nothing but clever amateur verse; but now, in his eighteenth year, he wrote an imperishable poem. The circumstances under which it was composed have been variously stated, but they agree in the main particulars, and are thus given in "The Bryant Homestead Book" (1870), apparently on authentic information: "It was here at Cummington, while wandering in the primeval forests, over the floor of which were scattered the gigantic trunks of fallen trees, mouldering for long years, and suggesting an indefinitely remote antiquity, and where silent rivulets crept along through the carpet of dead leaves, the spoil of thousands of summers, that the poem entitled 'Thanatopsis' was composed. The young poet had read the poems of Kirke White, which, edited by Southey, were published about that time, and a small volume of Southey's miscellaneous poems; and some lines of those authors had kindled his imagination, which, going forth over the face of the inhabitants of the globe, sought to bring under one broad and comprehensive view the destinies of the human race in the present life, and the perpetual rising and passing away of generation after generation who are nourished by the fruits of its soil, and find a resting-place in its bosom." We should like to know what lines in Southey and Kirke White suggested "Thanatopsis," that they might be printed in letters of gold hereafter.

When the young poet quitted Cummington to begin his law studies, he left the manuscript of this incomparable poem

among his papers in the house of his father, who found it after his departure. "Here are some lines that our William has been writing," he said to a lady to whom he showed them. She read them, and, raising her eyes to the face of Dr. Bryant, burst into tears—a tribute to the genius of his son in which he was not ashamed to join. Blackstone bade his Muse a long adieu before he turned to wrangling courts and stubborn law; and our young lawyer intended to do the same (for poetry was starvation in America seventy years ago), but habit and nature were too strong for him. There is no difficulty in tracing the succession of his poems, and in a few instances the places where they were written, or with which they concerned themselves. "Thanatopsis," for example, was followed by "The Yellow Violet," which was followed by the "Inscription for the Entrance to a Wood," and the song beginning "Soon as the glazed and gleaming snow." The exquisite lines "To a Waterfowl" were written at Bridgewater, in his twentieth year, where he was still pursuing the study of law, which appears to have been distasteful to him. The concluding stanza sank deeply into a heart that needed its pious lesson:

> "He who, from zone to zone,
> Guides through the boundless sky thy certain flight,
> *In the long way that I must tread alone,*
> *Will lead my steps aright.*"

The lawyer-poet had a long way before him, but he did not tread it alone; for, after being admitted to the bar in Plymouth, and practising for a time in Plainfield, near Cumming-

ton, he removed to Great Barrington, in Berkshire, where he saw the dwelling of the Genevieve of his chilly little "Song," his Genevieve being Miss Frances Fairchild of that beautiful town, whom he married in his twenty-seventh year, and who was the light of his household for nearly half a century. It was to her, the reader may like to know, that he addressed the ideal poem beginning "O fairest of the rural maids" (*circa* 1825), "The Future Life" (1837), and "The Life that Is" (1858); and her memory and her loss are tenderly embalmed in one of the most touching of his later poems, "October, 1866."

"Thanatopsis" was sent to the *North American Review* (whether by its author or his father we are not told), and with such a modest, not to say enigmatical, note of introduction, that its authorship was left in doubt. The *Review* was managed by a club of young literary gentlemen, who styled themselves "The North American Club," two of whose members, Mr. Richard Henry Dana and Mr. Edward Tyrrel Channing, were considered its editors. Mr. Dana read the poem carefully, and was so surprised at its excellence that he doubted whether it was the production of an American, an opinion in which his associates are understood to have concurred. While they were hesitating about its acceptance, he was told that the writer was a member of the Massachusetts Senate; and, the Senate being then in session, he started immediately from Cambridge for Boston. He reached the State House, and inquired for Senator Bryant. A tall, middle-aged man, with a business-like look, was pointed out to him. He was satisfied that he could not be the poet he sought, so he posted back to

Cambridge without an introduction. The story ends here, and rather tamely; for the original narrator forgot, or perhaps never knew, that Dr. Bryant was a member of the Senate, and that it was among the possibilities that *he* was the Senator with a similar name. American poetry may be said to have commenced in 1817 with the September number of the *North American Review*, which contained "Thanatopsis" and the "Inscription for the Entrance of a Wood," the last being printed as a "Fragment." Six months later, in March, 1818, the impression which "Thanatopsis" created was strengthened by the appearance of the lines "To a Waterfowl," and the "Version of a Fragment of Simonides."

Mr. Bryant's literary life may now be said to have begun, though he depended upon the practice of his profession for his daily bread. He continued his contributions to the *North American Review* in the shape of prose papers on literary topics, and maintained the most friendly relations with its conductors; notably so with Mr. Dana, who was seven years his elder, and who possessed, like himself, the accomplishment of verse. At the suggestion of this poetical and critical brother, he was invited to deliver a poem before the Phi Beta Kappa Society at Harvard College—an honor which is offered only to those who have already made a reputation, and are likely to reflect credit on the Society as well as on themselves. He accepted, and in 1821 wrote his first poem of any length, "The Ages," which still remains the best poem of the kind that was ever recited before a college society either in this country or in England; grave, stately, thoughtful, presenting in animated,

picturesque stanzas a compact summary of the history of mankind. A young Englishman of twenty-one—Thomas Babington Macaulay—delivered in the same year a poem on "Evening," before the students of Trinity College, Cambridge; and it is instructive to compare his conventional heroics with the spirited Spenserian stanzas of William Cullen Bryant.

The lines "To a Waterfowl," which were written at Bridgewater in 1815, were followed by "Green River," "A Winter Piece," "The West Wind," "The Burial-Place," "Blessed are they that mourn," "No man knoweth his Sepulchre," "A Walk at Sunset," and "The Hymn to Death."

These poems, which cover a period of six busy years, are interesting to the poetic student as examples of the different styles of their writer, and of the changing elements of his thoughts and feelings. "Green River," for example, is a momentary revealment of his shy temperament and his daily pursuits. Its glimpses of nature are charming, and his wish to be beside its waters is the most natural one in the world. The young lawyer is not complimentary to his clients, whom he styles "the dregs of men," while his pen, which does its best to serve them, becomes "a barbarous pen." He is dejected, but a visit to the river will restore his spirits; for, as he gazes upon its lonely and lovely stream,

> "An image of that calm life appears
> That won my heart in my greener years."

"A Winter Piece" is a gallery of woodland pictures which surpasses anything of the kind in the language. "A Walk at

Sunset" is notable in that it is the first poem in which we see (faintly, it must be confessed) the aboriginal element, which was soon to become a prominent one in Mr. Bryant's poetry. It was inseparable from the primeval forests of the New World, but he was the first to perceive its poetic value. The "Hymn to Death"—stately, majestic, consolatory—concludes with a touching tribute to the worth of his good father, who died while he was writing it, at the age of fifty-four. The year 1821 was an important one to Mr. Bryant, for it witnessed the publication of his first collection of verse, his marriage, and the death of his father.

The next four years of Mr. Bryant's life were more productive than any that had preceded them, for he wrote upward of thirty poems during that time. The aboriginal element was creative in "The Indian Girl's Lament," "An Indian Story," "An Indian at the Burial-Place of his Fathers," and, noblest of all, "Monument Mountain;" the Hellenic element predominated in "The Massacre at Scio" and "The Song of the Greek Amazon;" the Hebraic element touched him lightly in "Rizpah" and the "Song of the Stars;" and the pure poetic element was manifest in "March," "The Rivulet" (which, by the way, ran through the grounds of the old homestead at Cummington), "After a Tempest," "The Murdered Traveler," "Hymn to the North Star," "A Forest Hymn," "O fairest of the rural maids," and the exquisite and now most pathetic poem, "June." These poems and others not specified here, if read continuously and in the order in which they were composed, show a wide range of sympathies, a per-

fect acquaintance with many measures, and a clear, capacious, ever-growing intellect. They are all distinctive of the genius of their author, but neither exhibits the full measure of his powers. We can say of none of them, "The man who wrote this will never write any better."

The publication of Mr. Bryant's little volume of verse was indirectly the cause of his adopting literature as a profession. It was warmly commended, and by no one more so than by Mr. Gulian C. Verplanck, in the columns of the *New York American.* He was something of a literary authority at the time, a man of fortune and college-bred, known in a mild way as the author of an anniversary discourse delivered before the New York Historical Society in 1818, of a political satire entitled "The Bucktail Bards," and later of an "Essay on the Doctrine of Contracts." Among his friends was Mr. Henry D. Sedgwick, a summer neighbor, so to speak, of Mr. Bryant's, having a country-house at Stockbridge, a few miles from Great Barrington, and a house in town, which was frequented by the *literati* of the day, such as Verplanck, Halleck, Percival, Cooper, and others of less note. An admirer of Mr. Bryant, Mr. Sedgwick set to work, with the assistance of Mr. Verplanck, to procure him literary employment in New York, in order to enable him to escape his hated bondage to the law; and he was appointed assistant editor of a projected periodical called the *New York Review and Athenæum Magazine.* The at last enfranchised lawyer dropped his barbarous pen, closed his law-books, and in the winter or spring of 1825 removed with his household to New York. The projected periodical was

started, as these sanguine ventures always are, with fair hopes of success. It was well edited, and its contributors were men of acknowledged ability. The June number contained two poems which ought to have made a great hit. One was "A Song of Pitcairn's Island;" the other was "Marco Bozzaris." There was no flourish of trumpets over them, as there would be now; the writers merely prefixed their initials, "B." and "H." The reading public of New York were not ready for the *Review*, which had been projected for their mental enlightenment; so, after about a year's struggle, it was merged in the *New York Literary Gazette*, which began its mission about four years before. This magazine shared the fate of its companion in a few months, when it was consolidated with the *United States Literary Gazette*, which in two months was swallowed up in the *United States Review*. The honor of publishing and finishing the last was shared by Boston and New York. Profit in these publications there was none, though Bryant, Halleck, Willis, Dana, Bancroft, and Longfellow wrote for them. Too good, or not good enough, they lived and died prematurely. Mr. Bryant's success as a metropolitan man of letters was not brilliant so far; but there were other walks than those of pure literature open to him, as to others, and into one of the most bustling of these he entered in his thirty-second year. In other words, he became one of the editors of the *Evening Post*. Henceforth he was to live by journalism.

Journalism, though an exacting pursuit, leaves its skillful followers a little leisure in which to cultivate literature. It

was the heyday of those ephemeral trifles, Annuals, and Mr. Bryant found time to edit one, with the assistance of his friend Mr. Verplanck, and his acquaintance Mr. Robert C. Sands (who, by the way, was one of the editors of the *Commercial Advertiser*), and a very creditable work it was. His contributions to "The Talisman" included some of his best poems. Poetry was the natural expression of his genius—a fact which he could never understand, for it always seemed to him that prose was the natural expression of all mankind. His prose was, and always continued to be, masterly. Its earliest examples, outside of his critical papers in the *North American Review* and other periodicals (and outside of the *Evening Post*, of course), are two stories entitled "Medfield" and "The Skeleton's Cave," contributed by him to "Tales of the Glauber Spa" (1832)—a collection of original stories by Mr. James K. Paulding, Mr. Verplanck, Mr. Sands, Mr. William Leggett, and Miss Catharine Sedgwick. Three years before (1828) he had become the chief editor of the *Evening Post*. Associated with him was Mr. Leggett, who had shown some talent as a writer of sketches and stories, and who had failed, like himself, in conducting a critical publication, for which his countrymen were not ready. He made a second collection of his poems at this time (1832), a copy of which was sent by Mr. Verplanck to Mr. Washington Irving, who was then, what he had been for years, the idol of English readers, and not without weight with the Trade. Would he see if some English house would not reprint it? No leading publisher nibbled at it, not even Murray, who was Mr. Irving's publisher; but an obscure book-

seller named Andrews finally agreed to undertake it, if Mr. Irving would put his valuable name on the title-page as the editor. He was not acquainted with Mr. Bryant, but he was a kind-hearted, large-souled gentleman, who knew good poetry when he saw it, and he consented to "edit" the book. He was not a success in the estimation of Andrews, who came to him one day, by no means a merry Andrew, and declared that the book would ruin him unless one or more changes were made in the text. What was amiss in it? He turned to the "Song of Marion's Men," and stumbled over an obnoxious couplet in the first stanza:

> "The British soldier trembles
> When Marion's name is told."

"That won't do at all, you know." The absurdity of the objection must have struck the humorist comically; but as he wanted the volume republished, he good-naturedly saved the proverbial valor of the British soldier by changing the first line to

> "The foeman trembles in his camp,"

and the tempest in a teapot was over, as far as England was concerned. Not as far as the United States was concerned, however; for when the circumstance became known to Mr. Leggett, he excoriated Mr. Irving for his subserviency to a bloated aristocracy, and so forth. Mr. John Wilson reviewed the book in *Blackwood's Magazine* in a half-hearted way, patronizing the writer with his praise.

The poems that Mr. Bryant wrote during the first seven

years of his residence in New York (some forty in number, not including translations) exhibited the qualities which distinguished his genius from the beginning, and were marked by characteristics which were rather acquired than inherited. In other words, they were somewhat different from those which were written at Great Barrington. The Hellenic element was still visible in "The Greek Partisan" and "The Greek Boy," and the aboriginal element in "The Disinterred Warrior." The large imagination of "The Hymn to the North Star" was radiant in "The Firmament," and in "The Past." Ardent love of nature found expressive utterance in "Lines on Revisiting the Country," "The Gladness of Nature," "A Summer Ramble," "A Scene on the Banks of the Hudson," and "The Evening Wind." The little book of immortal dirges had a fresh leaf added to it in "The Death of the Flowers," which was at once a pastoral of autumn and a monody over a beloved sister. A new element appeared in "The Summer Wind," and was always present afterward in Mr. Bryant's meditative poetry—the association of humanity with nature—a calm but sympathetic recognition of the ways of man and his presence on the earth. The power of suggestion and of rapid generalization, which was the key-note of "The Ages," lived anew in every line of "The Prairies," in which a series of poems present themselves to the imagination as a series of pictures in a gallery—pictures in which breadth and vigor of treatment and exquisite delicacy of detail are everywhere harmoniously blended, and the unity of pure Art is attained. It was worth going to the ends of the world to be able to write "The Prairies."

Confiding in the discretion of his associate Mr. Leggett, and anxious to escape from his daily editorial labors, Mr. Bryant sailed for Europe with his family in the summer of 1834. It was his intention to perfect his literary studies while abroad, and to devote himself to the education of his children; but his intention was frustrated, after a short course of travel in France, Germany, and Italy, by the illness of Mr. Leggett, whose mistaken zeal in the advocacy of unpopular measures had seriously injured the *Evening Post*. He returned in haste early in 1836, and devoted his time and energies to restoring the prosperity of his paper. Nine years passed before he ventured to return to Europe, though he managed to visit certain portions of his own country. His readers tracked his journeys through the letters which he wrote to the *Evening Post*, and which were noticeable for justness of observation and clearness of expression. A selection from Mr. Bryant's foreign and home letters was published in 1852, under the title of "Letters of a Traveler."

The life of a man of letters is seldom eventful. There are, of course, exceptions to the rule; for literature, like other polite professions, is never without its disorderly followers. It is instructive to trace their careers, which are usually short ones; but the contemplation of the calm, well-regulated, self-respecting lives of the elder and wiser masters is much more satisfactory. We pity the Maginns, and Mangans, and Poes, whom we have always with us; but we admire and reverence such writers as Wordsworth, and Thackeray, and Bryant, who dignify their high calling. The last thirty years of the life of

Mr. Bryant were devoid of incidents, though one of them (1866) was not without the supreme sorrow—death. He devoted himself to journalism as conscientiously as if he still had his spurs to win, discussing all public questions with independence and fearlessness; and from time to time, as the spirit moved him, he added to our treasures of song, contributing to the popular magazines of the period, and occasionally issuing these contributions in separate volumes. He published "The Fountain and Other Poems" in 1842; "The White-Footed Deer and Other Poems" in 1844; a collected edition of his poems, with illustrations by Leutze, in 1846; an edition in two volumes in 1855; "Thirty Poems" in 1866; and in 1876 a complete illustrated edition of his poetical writings. To the honors which these volumes brought him he added fresh laurels in 1870 and 1871 by the publication of his translation of the "Iliad" and the "Odyssey"—a translation which was highly praised both at home and abroad, and which, if not the best that the English language is capable of, is, in many respects, the best which any English-writing poet has yet produced.

There comes a day in the intellectual lives of most poets when their powers cease to be progressive and productive, or are productive only in the forms to which they have accustomed themselves, and which have become mannerisms. It was not so with Mr. Bryant. He enjoyed the dangerous distinction of proving himself a great poet at an early age; he preserved this distinction to the last, for the sixty-four years which elapsed between the writing of "Thanatopsis" and the

writing of "The Flood of Years" witnessed no decay of his poetic capacities, but rather the growth and development of trains of thought and forms of verse of which there was no evidence in his early writings. His sympathies were enlarged as the years went on, and the crystal clearness of his mind was colored with human emotions.

To Bryant, beyond all other modern poets, the earth was a theatre upon which the great drama of life was everlastingly played. The remembrance of this fact is his inspiration in "The Fountain," "An Evening Revery," "The Antiquity of Freedom," "The Crowded Street," "The Planting of the Apple-Tree," "The Night Journey of a River," "The Sower," and "The Flood of Years." The most poetical of Mr. Bryant's poems are, perhaps, "The Land of Dreams," "The Burial of Love," "The May Sun sheds an Amber Light," and "The Voice of Autumn;" and they were written in a succession of happy hours, and in the order named. Next to these pieces, as examples of pure poetry, should be placed "Sella" and "The Little People of the Snow," which are exquisite fairy fantasies. The qualities by which Mr. Bryant's poetry are chiefly distinguished are serenity and gravity of thought; an intense though repressed recognition of the mortality of mankind; an ardent love for human freedom; and unrivaled skill in painting the scenery of his native land. He had no superior in this walk of poetic art—it might almost be said no equal, for his descriptions of nature are never inaccurate or redundant. "The Excursion" is a tiresome poem, which contains several exquisite episodes. Mr. Bryant knew how to

write exquisite episodes, and to omit the platitudes through which we reach them in other poets.

It is not given to many poets to possess as many residences as Mr. Bryant, for he had three—a town-house in New York, a country-house, called "Cedarmere," at Roslyn, Long Island, and the old homestead of the Bryant family at Cummington. He passed the winter months in New York, and the summer and early autumn months at his country-houses. No distinguished man in America was better known by sight than he.

"O good gray head that all men knew"

rose unbidden to one's lips as he passed his fellow-pedestrians in the streets of the great city, active, alert, with a springing step and a buoyant gait. He was seen in all weathers, walking down to his office in the morning, and back to his house in the afternoon—an observant antiquity, with a majestic white beard, a pair of sharp eyes, and a face which, noticed closely, recalled the line of the poet:

"A million wrinkles carved his skin."

Mr. Bryant had a peculiar talent, in which the French excel—the talent of delivering discourses upon the lives and writings of eminent men; and he was always in request after the death of his contemporaries.

Beginning with a eulogy on his friend Cole, the painter, who died in 1848, he paid his well-considered tributes to the memory of Cooper and Irving, and assisted at the dedication in the Central Park of the Morse, Shakespeare, Scott, and Hal-

leck monuments. His addresses on those occasions, and others that might be named, were models of justice of appreciation and felicity of expression. His last public appearance was at the Central Park, on the afternoon of May 29, 1878, at the unveiling of a statue to Mazzini. It was an unusually hot day, and after delivering his address, which was remarkable for its eloquence, he accompanied General James Grant Wilson, an acquaintance of some years' standing, to his residence in East Seventy-fourth street. General Wilson reached his door with Mr. Bryant leaning on his arm; he took a step in advance to open the inner door, and while his back was turned the poet fell, striking his head on the stone platform of the front steps. It was his death-blow; for, though he recovered his consciousness sufficiently to converse a little, and was able to ride to his own house with General Wilson, his fate was sealed. He lingered until the morning of the 12th of June, when his capacious spirit passed out into the Unknown. Two days later all that was mortal of him was buried beside the grave of his wife at Roslyn.

Such was the life and such the life-work of William Cullen Bryant.

R. H. STODDARD.

CHRONOLOGIES OF BRYANT'S LIFE AND POEMS, A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF HIS POETICAL AND PROSE WRITINGS, ETC.

COMPILED BY HENRY C. STURGES.

CHRONOLOGY OF BRYANT'S LIFE.

FOUNDED ON PARKE GODWIN'S BIOGRAPHY OF BRYANT.

So live, that when thy summons comes to join
The innumerable caravan, that moves
To that mysterious realm, where each shall take
His chamber in the silent halls of death,
Thou go not, like the quarry-slave at night,
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave,
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.

1794.

WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT was born at Cummington, Massachusetts, November 3d of this year. In regard to the exact site of the house in which he was born, Mr. Bryant says, in a statement printed in Parke Godwin's biography of him: "My father and mother then lived in a house, which stands no longer, near the center of the township, amid fields which have a steep slope to the north fork of the Westfield River, a shallow stream brawling over a bed of loose stones in a very narrow valley. A few old apple-trees mark the spot where the house stood, and opposite, on the other side of the way, is a graveyard in which sleep some of those who came to Cummington while it was yet a forest. It was a small house constructed of square logs, afterward removed and placed near that occupied by Daniel Dawes. On my first birthday there is a record that I could already go alone, and on the 28th of March, 1796, when but a few days more than sixteen months old, there is another record that I knew all the letters of the alphabet."

1797.

In September of this year the family moved to Plainfield. "The poet was puny and very delicate in body, and of a pain-

fully nervous temperament," said Senator Dawes in his Centennial Address, at Cummington, in June, 1879. "In a few years, when he had become famous, those who had been medical students with his father when he was struggling for existence with the odds very much against him, delighted to tell of the cold baths they were ordered to give the infant poet in a spring near the house each early morning of the summer months, continuing the treatment in spite of the outcries and protestations of their patient, so late into the autumn as sometimes to break the ice which skimmed the surface."

Long years afterward Mr. Bryant wrote: "I have lately been to look at the site of that house. Nothing is left of it but the cellar and some portion of the chimney among a thick growth of brambles."

1798.

"In May," says Mr. Bryant, writing of this year, "our family moved again to the distance of about two miles, and occupied a house in Cummington. Not a trace of it now remains. The plow has passed over its site and leveled the earth where it stood, but immediately opposite are yet seen the hollow of an old cellar and the foundation stones of a house where there lived a neighbor. From my new abode, before I had completed my fourth year, I was sent to the district school."

1799.

"In April," continues the poet, "when I was in my fifth year, our family went to live at the homestead of my grandfather on the mother's side, Ebenezer Snell, which I now possess, and which became my father's home for the rest of his lifetime. While living at the homestead I went with my elder brother, Austin, to a district school kept in a little house which then stood near by on the bank of a rivulet that flows by the dwelling. The education which we received here was of the humblest elementary kind, stopping at grammar, unless we include theology, as learned from the Westminster Catechism, which was our Saturday exercise. I was an excellent, almost infallible speller, and ready in geography, but in

the catechism, not understanding the abstract terms, I made but little progress."

1803.

"In my ninth year," writes Mr. Bryant, "I began to make verses, some of which were utter nonsense. A year or two later my grandfather gave me as an exercise the first chapter of the Book of Job to turn into verse. I put the whole narration into heroic couplets, one of which I remember as the first draft:

> His name was Job, evil he did eschew.
> To him were born seven sons; three daughters too!

I paraphrased afterward the Hundred and Fourth Psalm."

1804–1806.

"In the Spring of 1804," Mr. Bryant says further, in a passage given by Mr. Godwin, "when I was ten years old I composed a little poem, the subject of which was The Description of the School, and which I declaimed on the schoolroom floor. It was afterward printed in the Hampshire Gazette, the county newspaper published at Northampton. Meantime I wrote various lampoons on my schoolfellows and others, and when the great eclipse of the sun took place in June, 1806, I celebrated the event in verse. So my time passed in study, diversified with labor and recreation. In the long winter evenings, in the stormy winter days, I read with my elder brother books from my father's library—not a large one, but well chosen. I remember well the delight with which we welcomed the translation of the Iliad by Pope, when it was brought into the house. My brother and myself, in emulation of the ancient heroes, made for ourselves wooden shields, swords and spears, and fashioned old hats in the shape of helmets with plumes of tow, and in the barn, when nobody observed us, we fought the battles of the Greeks and Trojans over again. I was always, from my earliest years, a delighted observer of external nature; the splendors of a winter daybreak over the wide wastes of snow seen from our windows, the glories of the autumnal woods, the gloomy approaches of the thunder-storm

and its departure amid sunshine and rainbows, the return of spring with its flowers, and the first snowfall of winter."

1808.

Mr. Bryant further states: "In February, 1808, General Woodbridge, of Worthington, a place about four miles distant from our dwelling, died. He was a promising and popular lawyer, held in high esteem by the Federal party to which he belonged, and was much lamented. My father suggested this event as a subject for a monody. I composed one beginning with these lines:

> The word is given—the cruel arrow flies
> With death foreboding aim, and Woodbridge dies!
> Lo! Hampshire's genius bending o'er his bier
> In silent sorrow heaves the sigh sincere!

"About this time the animosity with which the two political parties—Federalists and Republicans as they called themselves—regarded each other was at its height. My father was a Federalist, and his skill in his profession gave him great influence in Cummington and the neighboring county. I read the newspapers of the Federal party, and took a strong interest in political questions. Under Mr. Jefferson's administration, in consequence of our disputes with Great Britain, an embargo was laid in 1807 upon all the ports of our republic, which, by putting a stop to all foreign commerce, had a disastrous effect on many private interests, and embittered the hatred with which the Federalists regarded their political adversaries, and particularly Mr. Jefferson. I had written some satirical lines apostrophizing the President, which my father saw, and thinking well of them, encouraged me to write others in the same vein. This I did willingly, until the additions grew into a poem of several pages. This poem was published in Boston, 1808, in a little pamphlet entitled The Embargo, or Sketches of the Times—A Satire. By a Youth of Thirteen. I had the honor of being kindly noticed in the Monthly Anthology, a literary periodical published in Boston, which quoted from it the paragraph that had attracted my father's attention. It was decided that I should receive a college education, and I was

accordingly taken by my father to the house of my mother's brother, the Rev. Dr. Thomas Snell, in North Brookfield, to begin the study of Latin. I began with the Latin grammar, went through the Colloquies of Corderius, in which the words, for the ease of the learner, were arranged according to the English order, and then entered upon the New Testament in Latin. Next the Æneid of Virgil. While I was occupied with the Æneid my father wrote to me advising me to translate some portion of it into English verse. Accordingly I made a rhymed translation of the narrative of A Tempest in the first book. Somebody showed me a piece of paper with the title The Endless Knot, the representation of an intricate knot in parallel lines, between which were written some homely verses. I thought I could write better ones, and my head being full of the ancient mythology, I composed this." (Life, p. 29.)

1809.

"While I was at my uncle's," the poet continues, "another edition of my poem, The Embargo, was published in Boston. It had been revised and somewhat enlarged, and a few shorter poems were added. I went through the Æneid in my Latin studies, and then mastered the Eclogues and the Georgics, after which my uncle put into my hands a volume of the select Orations of Cicero. In the beginning of July, having read through the volume of Cicero's Orations, I left the excellent family of my uncle, where I had been surrounded by the most wholesome influences and examples, and returned to Cummington, after an absence of just eight calendar months. I took my place with the haymakers on the farm, and did, I believe, my part until the 28th of August, when I went to begin my studies in Greek with the Rev. Moses Hallock, in the neighboring township of Plainfield, where he was the minister. I committed to memory the declensions and conjugations of the Greek tongue with the rules of syntax, and then began reading the New Testament in Greek, taking first the Gospel of St. John. At the end of two calendar months I knew the Greek New Testament from end to end, almost as if it had been Eng-

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lish, and I returned to my home in Cummington, where a few days afterward I completed my fifteenth year.

1810.

"The next winter I was occupied with studies preparatory to entering college, which, for reasons of economy, it was decided that I should do a year in advance; that is to say, as a member of the sophomore class. At this time I had no help from a tutor, but in the spring I went again for two months to Plainfield and received from Mr. Hallock instructions in mathematics. In the beginning of September, when the annual commencement of Williams College was at that time held, I went with my father to Williamstown, passed an easy examination, and was admitted a member of the sophomore class. After the usual vacation I went again to Williamstown and began my college life. I mastered the daily lessons given out to my class and found much time for miscellaneous reading, for disputations and for literary composition in prose and verse. No attention was then paid to prosody, but I made an attempt to acquaint myself with the prosody of the Latin language and tried some experiments in Latin verse, which were clumsy and uncouth enough. Among my verses was a paraphrastic translation of Anacreon's Ode on Spring:

> So fragrant Spring returns again
> With all the graces in her train!

a version of David's lament over Saul and Jonathan, II Samuel i, 19 (Godwin's Life of Bryant, p. 76); the version of A Fragment of Simonides, a poem recited before my class; also an Indian war-song:

> Ghosts of my wounded brethren, rest;
> Shades of the warrior dead!

(See Godwin's Life of Bryant, p. 90.) Also note by Mr. Arthur Bryant, "I still retain in memory fragments and entire poems written about this period, many of which were never printed." Such as the Œdipus Tyrannus, Elegy on the Death of the Gerrymander, etc. (Godwin's Life of Bryant, p. 94.)

The Gerrymander was a figure representing a monster which the Federal newspapers constructed from outlines made on a map of Massachusetts by a peculiar arrangement of the electoral votes, which Elbridge Gerry was said to have so distributed as to secure a Legislature which would elect him to the United States Senate. To this period in Bryant's life belong the translations of Lucian's Dialogues of the Dead; also several Odes of Anacreon; the lines of Mimnermus of Colophon on The Beauty and Joy of Youth; An Idyl by Bion and choruses from Sophocles. During a school vacation in January, 1810, he wrote a patriotic song called The Genius of Columbia. (For full text of this poem, see Godwin's Life of Bryant, pp. 80–81.) An attempt to declaim before his class a passage from Knickerbocker's History of New York ended in his being compelled to resume his seat under the frowns of the tutor, the humor of it so convulsed him with laughter.

1811.

Under date of May 8th of this year Bryant writes: "Before the third term of my sophomore year was ended, I asked and obtained an honorable dismission from Williams College, and going back to Cummington began to prepare myself for entering the junior class at Yale. I pursued my studies with some diligence and without any guides save my books; but when the time drew near that I should apply for admission at Yale my father told me that his means did not allow him to maintain me at New Haven, and that I must give up the idea of a full course of college education."

At this period he read Cowper, Thomson, Burns, Southey, etc. These studies, however, did not win him from his rambles, during one of which his thoughts took a shape that proved to be of the greatest consequence in his poetic growth. He had been engaged in comparing Blair's poem, The Grave, with another of the same cast by Bishop Porteous, and his mind was also considerably occupied with a recent volume of Kirke White's verses. "It was in the autumn," we are told, "the blue of the summer sky had faded into gray and the brown earth was heaped with sear and withered emblems of the departed glory

of the year. As he trod up on the hollow-sounding ground in the loneliness of the woods and among the prostrate trunks of trees that for generations had been moldering into dust, he thought how the vast solitudes about him were filled with the same sad tokens of decay."

In December, 1811, he began the study of law in the office of Mr. Howe, of Worthington, a quiet little village some four or five miles from Cummington. He congratulated himself in a little poem on his escape from the farm. (See p. 103, Godwin's Life of Bryant.) To this period belongs the love-song beginning:

I knew thee fair and deemed thee free
From fraud and guile and faithless art;
Yet had I seen as now I see,
Thine image ne'er had stained my heart.

1812.

Of this period Parke Godwin says in his Life of Bryant: "Carefully preserved among his papers—and he was for the most part inattentive in keeping what concerned himself only —are several fragments of poems expressive of the joys, the doubts and the disappointments of love." (See Godwin's Life of Bryant, pp. 107–114, for text of these love poems.) He wrote at this time for the Washington Benevolent Society of Boston a Fourth of July ode, in which are these lines:

Should justice call to battle
The applauding shout we'd raise!
A million swords would leave their sheath—
A million bayonets blaze!

Another series of poems belonging to this period, and never published save in Godwin's Life of Bryant, is called A Chorus of Ghosts. This was published in the New York Review for 1824 over the signature of X, with several stanzas wanting, but since supplied by Mr. Arthur Bryant. (For full text of these poems see Godwin's Life of Bryant, pp. 115–117.)

1814.

In June, 1814, he removed to Bridgewater and resided with his grandfather, Dr. Philip Bryant, and entered the law office

of Mr. William Baylies. To this period belong the lines To a Friend on his Marriage, in the North American Review, March, 1818. On the 4th of July he delivered a piece of rhymed declamation, deploring the folly and ravages of war, and rejoicing in the downfall of Napoleon, then sent to Elba. (For text of this Ode see Godwin's Life, p. 121.) On August 9, 1814, he passed his preliminary examination for admission to the bar and received a certificate sprinkled with snuff, instead of sand, for which he paid six dollars. Mr. Bryant was at this time completely possessed with the military fever. A letter dated Cummington, November 16, 1814, Mass. State Archives, reads:

To his Excellency, Caleb Strong, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Commonwealth of Mass.:

Humbly representing that William C. Bryant, your petitioner, being desirous to enter the service of the State in the present struggle with a possible enemy, etc., etc.

A severe illness prevented him from enlisting, and after his recovery he penned an Ode to Death, beginning:

> Oh, thou whom the world dreadeth—art thou nigh
> To thy pale Kingdom Death to summon me?

1816.

On July 25, 1816, Mr. Bryant was appointed adjutant in the Massachusetts militia, but returned the commission to the adjutant-general February 8, 1817. The treaty of peace signed at Ghent ended the war. To this period belongs the ode written for the Howard Society of Boston.

> Oh taught by many a woe and fear
> We welcome thy returning wing!
> And earth, Oh Peace, is glad to hear,
> Thy name among her echoes ring."

(For full text of this poem see Godwin's Life, p. 137.) "On the 15th of August, 1816, he left Bridgewater with his credentials as an Attorney of the Common Pleas in his pocket." He now adopted the poetic form in which he worked for the rest of his life. See poem I cannot forget with what Fervid Devo-

tion. Mr. Godwin says: "All his papers of this period bear witness to constant and ever renewed attempts in different forms to paint her (Nature's) varying aspects."

"He hums to himself of flowers, groves, streams, trees, and especially of winds which abounded in the region in which he lived. Among other things, he began an Indian story after the manner of Scott's Highland Poems, but judging by the little of it that was executed, the descriptive quite overmastered the narrative parts." (See p. 141 of Godwin's Life for specimens of poems of that period.) "He wrote at this time The Yellow Violet just before leaving Bridgewater on a visit to Cummington."

"Another poem, Inscription for the Entrance to a Wood, published in the North American Review, 1817, under the title of A Fragment, was composed in an old forest fronting his father's house."

1817.

On December 15, 1817, he walked over to Plainfield, a town seven miles from Cummington on the opposite hillside. Mr. Godwin says in his Life of Bryant: "As he walked up the hills very forlorn and desolate indeed, not knowing what was to become of him in the big world which grew bigger as he ascended and yet darker with the coming on of night. The sun had already set, leaving behind it one of those brilliant seas of chrysolite and opal which often flood the New England skies. While he was looking upon the rosy splendor with rapt admiration, a solitary bird made wing along the illuminated horizon. He watched the lone wanderer until it was lost in the distance, asking himself whither it had come and to what far home it was flying. When he went to the house where he was to stop for the night, his mind was still full of what he had seen and felt, and he wrote those lines, as imperishable as our language, To A Waterfowl:

He who from zone to zone
  Guides through the boundless sky thy certain flight,
In the long way that I must tread alone
  Will lead my steps aright!

"He remained in Plainfield eight months, and then entered into a partnership with George H. Ives, of Great Barrington. In June his father wrote to him from Boston that Mr. Willard Philips (an old Hampshire friend) desired him to contribute something to his new Review. The younger Bryant either was not tempted, or was too busy to make reply. The father, while his son was at Bridgewater, discovered the manuscripts of Thanatopsis, The Fragment, and a few other poems carefully hidden away in a desk."

The first number of the North American Review appeared in May, 1815. Mr. Tudor acted as editor until 1817, when it passed entirely into the hands of a club. The chief members were Richard H. Dana, Edward T. Channing, and Willard Philips. Edward T. Channing (brother of William Ellery Channing) afterward became Boylston Professor of Rhetoric at Harvard College. Philips was a tutor at Harvard, but became Judge of Probate and writer of law books. Thanatopsis was carried to Philips. Dana said: "Oh, Philips, you have been imposed upon. No one on this side of the Atlantic is capable of writing such verses." Thanatopsis was published in September. Prefixed were four stanzas on the subject of death, which had no connection with it and were not intended for publication.

1818.

In March, 1818, Mr. Bryant wrote To a Friend on his Marriage, Version of Simonides, and in July an essay on American poetry. The department of original poetry in the North American Review was discontinued in 1818. The essay on the Happy Temperament was published in No. 9, p. 206. In June, 1818, he reviewed Paulding's Backwoodman.

At Mr. Philips's suggestion he wrote an essay on American poetry for the July number, a recent collection of American poetry by Solyman Brown furnishing the subject. On the 29th of January, 1818, he delivered an address before the Bible Society of Great Barrington. This was published in the Berkshire Star of February 6, 1818. In the spring of 1824 the editorship of the North American Review was changed, Mr. Alex-

ander and Edward Everett taking charge. They rejected a critique by Mr. Bryant on The Idleman, and he stopped writing for the magazine.

1819.

Mr. Bryant was interested in the local affairs of the town in which he lived, and on March 9th he was elected Tithingman of his native town, whose duties consisted in keeping order in the churches and enforcing the observance of the Sabbath. He was also elected Town Clerk and appointed Justice of the Peace. (Note.—"An old gentleman still living makes it a boast that he was 'jined' to his first old woman by Squire Bryant.")

1820.

"On the 20th of March, Mr. Bryant's father, who had been ill for a year or more, died at the age of fifty-three. The memory of this loss clung to him for many years."

"Save the fragment called the The Burial-Place, begun and broken off in 1819, Mr. Bryant had written nothing since he entered upon his practise in 1816. The pieces sent to the North American Review were taken from his scrap-book."

"Soon after his father's death, while he was yet full of the sentiment it inspired, an appeal was made to him by the Unitarians in aid of a collection of hymns. Mr. Henry D. Sewall, the editor, applied to Miss Catherine M. Sedgwick, of Stockbridge, to use her efforts in his behalf, and the result was that six hymns were sent for the collections." (See note, p. 163, of Godwin's Life.)

"On the 4th of July he delivered an oration in the Stockbridge church."

1821.

Mr. Godwin says, speaking of this period: "Mr. Dana's project for a periodical to be called The Idleman, and to consist of poetry, essays, criticisms, and historical and biographical sketches, enlisted Mr. Bryant's warmest interest from the beginning. As early as May, 1821, Mr. Channing asked his assistance for it, suggesting 'That a literary frolic now and then is the best restorative for a conscientious but overworked

and jaded attorney.' In reply Mr. Bryant put The Yellow Violet at Mr. Dana's disposal, and enclosed another piece, Green River. He also contributed to it A Winter Piece, The Burial-Place, and a Walk at Sunset."

"Not long after his settlement at Great Barrington, he met at a village sociable the young lady, Miss Fanny Fairchild, who afterward became his wife. The depth of his attachment was not revealed to him until the object of it was temporarily called away. He began to pity himself very much in rhymes—Oh Fairest of the Rural Maids is the only one of these poems the author has cared to print." (See note, p. 167, of Life for Another.) "On Miss Fairchild's return they became engaged, and on the 11th of June, 1821, were married at the house of the bride's sister, Mrs. Henderson." (See letter of Mr. Bryant to his mother announcing the event, p. 169 of Godwin's Life.)

"A few months after his marriage Mr. Bryant was surprised by a communication from the secretary of the Phi Beta Kappa Society of Harvard College, Mr. U. J. Spooner, requesting him 'By a unanimous vote of the Society' to deliver the usual poetical address at the next commencement." (See letter to Mr. Spooner dated April 26, 1821, pp. 170–171, of Godwin's Life; also letter to his wife dated August 25th, pp. 171–172.)

"His poem called The Ages was delivered August 30th in the Old Congregational Church of Cambridge. Before leaving Boston he consented to have it published with his other poetical effusions. The result was a small pamphlet of 44 pages published in September and containing eight poems: The Ages, To a Waterfall, The Fragment from Simonides, Inscription for the Entrance to a Wood, The Yellow Violet, The Song, Green River, and Thanatopsis. The October number of the North American Review contained an elaborate criticism. The entire collection was copied into a selection of American Poetry, by Mr. Roscoe, published by Allman, London, 1822. Blackwood for June contained a favorable criticism."

1823.

"The revolt of the Greeks from Turkish rule excited his interest. In December, 1823, he delivered an address on the

subject in Great Barrington. He also wrote a farce for the stage called The Heroes, but it was a failure."

His friends were very anxious for him to come to New York. Henry J. Anderson at this time had revived the Atlantic Magazine (published for a while by Robert J. Sands). Bliss and White, the publishers, paid him $500 a year and authorized an expenditure of $500 more. (See letter to his wife from New York under date of April 24, 1824. Godwin's Life, p. 189.)

1824.

Theophilus Parsons established the United States Literary Gazette in Boston, publishing the first number April 1st. Mr. Bryant's first contribution was a poem called Rizpah.

A letter written to his friend, Richard H. Dana, at Cambridge, Mass., under date of July 8th, says: "You inquire whether I have written anything except what I have furnished to Parsons (for United States Literary Gazette). Nothing at all. I made an engagement with him with a view in the first place to earn something in addition to the emoluments of my profession, which, as you may suppose, are not very ample; and in the second place to keep my hand in, for I was very near discontinuing entirely the writing of verses." He also mentions in this same letter the narrative poem of the Spectre Ship. This is partly extant in manuscript, but was never published.

His work at this time consisted largely of reviews. See North American Review, No. 11, p. 384; Review of Miss Sedgwick's Redwood. North American Review, No. 19, p. 42; Poems of Henry Pickering. North American Review, No. 20, p. 245; Review of Percy's Masque, by James T. Hillhouse. Besides these the manuscripts of many minor writers were sent to him. He was patient with all, returning often elaborate corrections and advice.

Mr. Bryant fixed two dollars apiece as his compensation for these writings. The publishers, however, offered him $200 a year for an average of 100 lines a month, about 16½ cents a line. Mr. Philips's account, rendered in 1826, shows that of the 1821 edition of his poems, 750 copies were printed and only 270 sold; a profit of $15, minus eight cents, for five years' sale.

A note in General James Grant Wilson's Bryant and his Friends, p. 42, reads: "The writer met Mr. Bryant in a book-store in the winter of '78, and showed him a copy of this edition he had just purchased for $10. Mr. Bryant remarked, 'Well, that is more than I received for its contents.'"

The poetry of the Gazette was republished under the title of Miscellaneous Poems in 1826. See criticisms in North American Review, vol. xxii, p. 43, 1826. Also Mr. Bryant's own criticism of the poems in New York Review, vol. i, p. 389, mentioning poems by H. W. L. (We know not who he is).

He did not at this time neglect his practise of law. He argued cases at Northampton, New Haven, and before the Supreme Court at Boston. Mr. Trueman Smith, at one time Senator from Connecticut, says that he was associated with Mr. Bryant in the conduct of an important trial at New Haven "in which he evinced the very highest learning, acumen, and assiduity."

For report of his last law case, see Massachusetts Reports, 2d Pickering, p. 320. He alleged the decision was not in accordance with equity, citing in proof one of the last cases in which he was employed. He lost his case on an appeal to the Supreme Court. (Poetical Works, vol. i, p. 99—I broke the spell that held me long.) Interesting data on this period will be found in Godwin's Life, pp. 202–204.

"His solitary brooding habits, his dislike of his occupation (law), his love of the thickets along Green River and the Housatonic, and his reticent, austere manner with strangers contrasted with his cheerful, entertaining, joyous ways among his friends. He had a strange fondness for talking with farmers, woodmen, and stage-drivers. He was a passionate botanist, and knew the name of every tree, flower, and spire of grass. In court he often lost his self-control when provoked by adversaries. He was punctual in going to church, but was terribly prone to pick the sermons all to pieces. A French officer of Napoleon's army, a friend of Lafayette, named Bounton, gave him lessons in French and fencing."

On May 11th of this year Thanatopsis was first published in the Evening Post, with editorial note by Mr. Coleman.

1825.

"Mr. Bryant visited New York in both January and February, 1825—'A literary adventurer' he describes himself. He was three days and nights making the journey by stage. The population of New York was then about 150,000. Broadway extended to Canal Street, the city limit. Then came orchards and fields. Greenwich village, about Twelfth Street, was a summer resort. The fashionable residences were around the Battery and the finest shops were in Maiden Lane.

"Mr. Bryant became joint editor with Mr. Henry J. Anderson of a new publication called The New York Review and Athenæum Magazine, the first number appearing in June. This publication was an amalgamation of the Atlantic Magazine, which had been started in 1824 by Robert C. Sands, edited by him for six months, and sold out to Henry J. Anderson, who was editing The Literary Review. The first number of The New York Review and Athenæum Magazine appeared May 1st, and contained a review of a poem by James A. Hillhouse, entitled Hadad, and an original poem by Bryant called A Song of Pitcairn's Island."

In July he visited Cummington, writing the poems The Skies and Lines on Revisiting the Country. In the autumn he prepared four lectures on poetry, and delivered them before the American Athenæum Society in April, 1826.

1826.

There had been for years in New York an institution called The American Academy of Art, of which Jonathan Trumbull was president, and of which Chancellor Livingston and De Witt Clinton and others were members. This association was managed by laymen, and the artists organized a drawing association, November 8th, which met in the old almshouse building behind the City Hall, January 18, 1826. This became the National Academy of the Arts of Design, with S. F. B. Morse as president. It opened schools and gave exhibitions. Mr. Bryant was appointed one of the professors and read to the classes five lectures on mythology, December, 1827;

repeated in February, 1828; January, 1829; and November, 1831.

Mr. Bryant contributed largely to The New York Review both poetry and prose, but the publication was not a success. It ended with the May number. It was republished from May 13th to August 26th, under the title The New York Literary Gazette and American Athenæum. This too proved a failure. It was then joined with The United States Literary Gazette of Boston, and reissued October 1st with the new title of The United States Review and Literary Gazette, under the joint editorship of James G. Carter in Boston (afterward of Charles Folsom) and William C. Bryant in New York. Mr. Bryant's contributions will be found under their appropriate head later on in this work. This Review ran until October, 1827, and then died a natural death.

Mr. Bryant renewed his license to practise law in the courts of New York in March, and was associated with Mr. Henry Sedgwick in the prosecution of a claim for the recovery of part of the fund raised for the Greeks. He was asked to become temporary editor of The Evening Post.

1827.

"As assistant editor of The Evening Post Mr. Bryant's life from this date became largely that of a journalist, and reference must be made to the columns of the above-mentioned paper for data of this period. In politics he was an ardent free trader, but was never an active politician."

His poetical contributions to The United States Review and Literary Gazette in this year were few. He wrote a review of Dana's poems for The North American. (See No. 26, p. 239, 1827.)

In the latter part of this year the first volume of The Talisman was prepared under the joint editorship of R. C. Sands, G. C. Verplanck, and William C. Bryant. It was published in the name of an imaginary editor, Mr. Francis Herbert. The Talisman was continued in 1829–'30, three volumes in all, and republished in 1832 under the title of Miscellanies by G. C. Verplanck, Robert C. Sands, and

William C. Bryant. The contributions to The Talisman will be found under the proper dates in the Chronology of Bryant's Poems.

1828.

On the 8th of January an Ode was delivered by Mr. Bryant at the Jackson dinner in Masonic Hall, the Democratic meeting place. This was published in the columns of The Evening Post soon after.

1829.

Mr. Bryant became editor-in-chief of The Evening Post on the death of Mr. Coleman in July. For a time his interests were so concentrated on the management of his paper as to leave no time for poetic composition. After a visit to the prairies of the West in 1832 he wrote one poem, but nothing else for three years.

1831.

In this year he prepared a small volume of poems, containing all that he had written since the edition of 1831. This volume was most favorably received, and criticized by William J. Snelling and Henry W. Longfellow in The North American for April, 1832. See also H. W. Prescott in the July number.

1832.

At the suggestion of Mr. Verplanck a copy of the poems was sent to Washington Irving in London, and issued with a dedication to Samuel Rogers. For important letters on this subject, see pp. 264–274, Godwin's Life. To Dana he writes, "I printed a thousand copies, and more than half are disposed of." The reception of the poems in England was favorable. (See Foreign Quarterly Review, 1832, and Retrospective Review, vol. i, p. 311, 1824.) John Wilson in Blackwood's for April, 1832, was loudest in his praise.

In a letter to his brother under date of February 9, 1832, he says: "If it [the volume of poems] brings me two hundred or two hundred and fifty dollars, I shall think myself doing pretty well."

In a letter to Mr. Dana, October 8th, he says concerning his

visit to the prairies: "I have seen the great west (Illinois), where I ate corn bread and hominy; slept in log houses with twenty men and women and children all in the same room. At Jacksonville, where my two brothers live, I got on a horse and traveled a hundred miles to the northward over the immense prairies."

Before leaving for the west Mr. Bryant had arranged a volume of tales called The Sextad, from the number of authors engaged in it. Mr. Verplanck retired from the work, and the title was changed to Tales of the Glauber Spa, and published soon after his return. The five authors were Miss Sedgwick and Messrs. Sands, Leggett, Paulding, and Bryant; his own contributions consisting of two stories, Medfield and Skeleton's Cave.

Mr. Sands died very suddenly this year, December 17th, and Mr. Bryant wrote a short memoir of his life, which appeared in the first number of The Knickerbocker Magazine, 1833.

1833.

In this year Mr. Bryant wrote no poetry. In the summer he went to Canada, visiting Montreal and Quebec. Just before his departure he was asked to prepare an address on the occasion of a benefit to be given to Mr. William Dunlap. Charles Kemble, Fanny Kemble, and a young actor, Edwin Forrest, had volunteered to appear. Bryant, however, refused. Among his papers was found a prologue for a theater (not named). (See Godwin's Life, p. 293.)

Writing to Dana (p. 295 Godwin's Life), he says: "The edition of my poems by Bliss is sold, all but a handful of copies. . . . I think of publishing another edition soon. . . ." On October 17, 1833, he writes to Dana: "Will you see your booksellers, Russell, Odiorne & Co., and ask whether they will give me $250 for one thousand copies of my book." November 2d he writes: "I have completed the bargain with Mr. Odiorne, and have given him my book with such corrections and additions as I have been able to make." This edition was published at Boston by Russell, Odiorne & Metcalf in 1834, and is nowhere mentioned in any bibliography of American poets.

A poem called The Robber was suppressed, but afterward published by N. P. Willis in the Mirror. (See p. 299 of Godwin's Life for this poem in full. See pp. 300–301 for variations in this poem and The Prairies.)

1834.

On June 24th Mr. Bryant sailed for Europe with his family, thus escaping the abolition riots which took place at this time. He visited France and Italy, spending a month in Rome and Florence, and came back through the Tyrol to Munich. It was during this trip that he met Henry W. Longfellow at Heidelberg, and enjoyed some strolls with him in the pine forests.

1836.

Mr. Bryant was summoned home by the illness of Mr. Leggett, assistant editor of the Post. He arrived in New York March 26th. A testimonial public dinner was offered to him in a letter from Washington Irving, F. G. Halleck, A. B. Durand, and G. C. Verplanck. This dinner Mr. Bryant declined. (See correspondence, pp. 312–313, Godwin's Life.)

On May 23d Mr. Bryant writes: "I have made a bargain with the Harpers for publishing my poems. They are to do it in a neat manner, with a vignette on the title-page. I have written to Weir to furnish the design—'a copy of a little landscape at West Point.' They will pay me twenty-five cents a copy. The work is to be stereotyped, and an impression of twenty-five hundred is to be struck off at first. For these I shall be paid $625."

In September he wrote to his brother John in Illinois: "I think of making some disposition of my interest in The Evening Post, and coming out to the western country with a few thousand dollars to try my fortune. . . . My book is out [the edition of 1836]. It contains some thirty pages more than the last edition, and is better printed. . . . The practise of physic is here undergoing a considerable revolution. The let-alone system is becoming fashionable. I am so far a convert to it that I distrust a physician who is inclined to go to work with large quantities of medicine." This is an allusion to his own

conversion to homœopathy, to which he adhered for the rest of his life.

His duties in The Evening Post occupied his full time, writing the leading articles and reviews of books, his office hours being from 7 A. M. to 4 P. M. (See pp. 345–357, Godwin's Life, for data on this period of great agitations on the part of the Abolitionists and Bryant's part in it.)

1838.

In June he writes: "I have no leisure for poetry. To keep myself in health I take long walks in the country. I accustom myself to the greatest simplicity of diet, renouncing tea, coffee, animal food, etc. . . ."

1839.

Mr. Leggett died this year, and Mr. Bryant wrote a memoir for The Democratic Review. The elder Dana sent to Mr. Bryant his son's novel, Two Years before the Mast. (See letter, June 24, 1839, Godwin's Life, p. 373.) It was refused by all the publishers, but finally, through Mr. Bryant's instrumentality, Harper and Bros. published it in 1840.

1840.

In a letter to Mr. Field, Mr. Bryant writes: "We have left the house in Carmine Street, after inhabiting it for two years and a half, and have taken a house in Ninth Street, near the Sixth Avenue, not far from Brevoort's House. . . . The greatest change that I perceive in New York is the introduction of cabs, and mustachios, and in some instances beards as long as those worn by the Dunkers."

1841.

This year he made a trip with Cole, the artist, through the Catskill Mountains. In September he went to Lebanon Springs, and later, with his young friend Samuel J. Tilden, visited ex-President Van Buren at Kinderhook. He also visited R. H. Dana at Rockport, Cape Ann. The Hymn of the Sea was suggested at this time. (See note, p. 391, Godwin's Life.)

1842.

In a letter to the Rev. Orville Dewey he gives a most interesting account of life in New York at this time, and speaks of making an address before the New Homœopathic Society. (See pp. 392–394, Godwin's Life.)

Charles Dickens visited America at this time. It was reported that his first question on landing was, "Where is Bryant?" Mr. Bryant called upon him twice in New York, missing him both times, upon which he received the note printed in Godwin's Life, page 395. They breakfasted together at the appointed time, there being also present Fitz-Green Halleck and Prof. Charles Felton, of Cambridge. Bryant entertained Dickens at his own home, and attended the public banquet and ball given to him. At this time Bryant published, through the Harpers, a new edition of his poems, containing all he had written since the 1836 edition. The title of the new book was The Fountain and other Poems. There were some twenty new poems in all. Dr. Channing's death occurred this year (p. 404, Godwin's Life). Mr. Bryant contributed the hymn sung at the funeral.

1843.

The Evening Post was at this time greatly enlarged in size and usefulness. In March he went south to visit William Gilmore Simms, and traveled as far as Florida. On his return he purchased the property at the place afterward called Roslyn. In July he visited a relative living in the Lake Champlain region.

1844.

The agitation concerning the annexation of Texas brought forth a letter in The Evening Post, August 20, 1844. (See pp. 412–423, Godwin's Life.)

1845.

On the 22d of April Mr. Bryant sailed for Europe with a young friend of his, Charles M. Leupp. During this visit he met Samuel Rogers, Thomas Moore, Leigh Hunt, Miss Joanna Baillie, Mary Howett, Cobden, Bright, Fox, and many other men of mark in literature and art. He returned home in November.

1846.

Though Mr. Bryant had had leisure to write very few new poems since the edition of 1844, he still found time to revise those already written, and a newly illustrated edition of his poems was issued by Messrs. Carey & Hart, of Philadelphia. His old friend Mr. Dana passed criticism upon all those poems. (For a very interesting correspondence between the two, see pp. 13–18, vol. ii, Godwin's Life. For an interesting correspondence at this time between Bryant and Longfellow, see pp. 24–26, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) He paid his last visit to his mother in the summer. She died May, 1847, aged eighty.

1847.

Mr. Bryant went in the summer to the White Mountains. (See pp. 32–34, Godwin's Life.)

1848.

This year was saddened by the death of Thomas Cole, the artist, and on May 4th Mr. Bryant delivered a eulogy at the Academy of Music before the National Academy of Design.

1849.

Early in this year Mr. John Bigelow became one of the proprietors and editors of The Evening Post. Mr. Bryant was now able to travel extensively. He made a trip to Cuba, being received in the best society. Returning to New York, he sailed June 13th for Europe. He met with a most cordial reception from Samuel Rogers and many others. He visited Scotland, including Abbotsford, going to the Continent in August. He found armed forces everywhere, and France on the brink of revolution. He visited Germany and Switzerland, returning to New York in December, and at the suggestion of Mr. Dana prepared a volume of travels, issued by G. P. Putnam in 1850. He had little time, however, for literary affairs outside of his editorial duties.

1852.

His friend Cooper died in 1851, and on February 25th Mr. Bryant delivered a eulogy before the Historical Society, Daniel

Webster presiding. On the 13th of November Mr. Bryant sailed for the Orient, visiting Egypt, Jerusalem, Damascus, Baalbec, Syria, etc. He returned home in June, 1853.

1854.

In 1854 Messrs. D. Appleton & Co. had become his publishers, and have continued to issue his works from this time on. An illustrated edition of his poems, printed in England, with illustrations by Birket Foster, Dalziel, Pickersgill, and others, was issued at this time, and also an edition without illustrations in two volumes. In regard to this edition Mr. Bryant says, writing to R. H. Dana, under date of May 26, 1854: "As to my poems with illustrations, that is an idea of my bookseller. . . . But the first thing which my bookseller—it is Appleton—has promised to do is to get out a neat edition in two volumes *without* illustrations. Though I have as great a horror of illustrations as you have, they will, I hope, hurt nobody." The two editions were accordingly issued, one without illustrations in two volumes, printed by D. Appleton & Co., the other in one volume, with illustrations, printed by B. Clay, Broad Street Hill, London.

1855.

Mr. Bryant's life at this period was entirely taken up with politics, especially with the formation of the Republican party, in which he was interested from the first.

1855.

The death of the poet Rogers brought forth a most interesting letter, which will be found on page 84 of Godwin's Life, vol. ii. Mr. Rogers, in an interview with George Bancroft, the historian, said that he "enjoyed reading Bryant's poems more than any other living poet."

The articles of organization of the new political party, drawn up in Wisconsin, were adopted in Ohio, and ratified at Syracuse in September.

1856.

Mr. Bryant attended no political meeting, but at a great gathering held in the New York Tabernacle, April 29th, he

sent a letter embodying his views, which was read at the meeting. (See Godwin's Life, vol. ii, p. 89.) Fremont and Dayton were nominated. The attack on Charles Sumner by Preston Brooks occurred about this time. (See contribution of Mr. Bryant to The Evening Post, July 24, 1856, entitled Brooks's Canada Song.)

1857.

On May 2d Mr. Bryant sailed for Europe, accompanied by his wife and daughter. He traveled through Europe to Spain, where he was offered great facilities through letters of introduction, given him by Archbishop Hughes. Emilio Castelar was presented to him. At the age of twenty-four Castelar was already professor of philosophy in the university.

1858.

The early part of this year was spent at Naples, owing to the illness of Mrs. Bryant. Here he finished his poems The River by Night, The Sick-Bed, and The Life that Is, a pendant to The Future Life. A letter from the Rev. R. C. Waterston (p. 108 of Godwin's Life) gives an extremely interesting account of a service held in his rooms, at which Mr. Bryant was baptized and partook of the communion. His own letter (pp. 109–113, vol. ii, Godwin's Life) completes the record of those days. In Rome he met Crawford, Story, Gibson, Chapman, Page, Terry, Miss Hosmer, Frederika Bremer, and Nathaniel Hawthorne. (See letter from Hawthorne, Godwin's Life, vol. ii, p. 112.) At Florence he met Hawthorne at Robert Browning's. (See Hawthorne's letter, pp. 113, 114, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) At Florence also he met Walter Savage Landor, and he speaks with great pleasure of the wise words gathered from his conversations. He returned to America in August.

1859.

He presided at a lecture given by Abraham Lincoln, and Mr Lincoln said, "It was worth the journey to the east to see such a man." April 19th he speaks of visiting the new park (Central), "in which thousands of men are at work blasting rocks, making roads, etc." He also speaks of meeting Mr.

Cobden, who was in New York at this time. They had met in England in 1845. The poems of these times were The Cloud on the Way, Waiting by the Gate, The New and Old, and The Third of November, all reflecting the gloom caused by the death of so many friends: Theodore Sedgwick, Benjamin F. Butler, C. N. Leupp, etc. Washington Irving died in November.

1860.

On the 3d of April Mr. Bryant delivered an address on The Life and Character of Washington Irving before the New York Historical Society. Bryant's poems were translated into French by M. Le Chevalier de Chatelain, and published. (See Bryant's letters to John Bigelow, Godwin's Life, vol. ii, p. 134.) He was elected honorary member of the Boston Historical Society. (See letter from the President, R. C. Winthrop, vol. ii, p. 136, Godwin's Life.) See letter from Rev. Mr. Waterston, giving account of Mr. Bryant's visit to him in Boston, and the celebration of the receipt of the news of Garibaldi's and Victor Emanuel's entry into Rome. November 10th, he wrote to President-elect Lincoln (see pp. 150–152, vol. ii, Godwin's Life), and again January 21 and February 5, 1861.

1861.

His work in the cause of the "Union" occupied the greater part of his time in this year. The poems of this period were, Not Yet, published in July, and Our Country's Call, published in August. Every day was filled with stirring events. A Word to the Chief Magistrate of the Union was published at this time. (See p. 169, vol. ii, Godwin's Life, for full text.)

1862.

Bryant continued his letters to Lincoln. (See p. 175, vol. ii, Godwin's Life. Letter to Dr. Dewey, p. 176.) In September he had an interview of great importance with President Lincoln. (See p. 179, vol. ii, Godwin's Life. See Evening Post, July 1, 1862.) In a letter to the Rev. S. H. Cox, D. D., November 7th, he thanks him for a Latin version of Thanatopsis; and in a letter, December 3d, he thanks Dr. Adolf Laun, of Oldenberg,

Germany, for a translation of his poems in the Sonntagsblatt. In another letter of December 3d, to M. P. Jônain, Epaignes, Charente Inférieure, France, he thanks him for the translation of his poems into French. In the winter of 1862, Sella and The Little People of the Snow were written, and he began a third poem called A Tale of Cloudland, which appears in Poetical Works, vol. ii.

1863.

On June 25th the office of The Evening Post was attacked by rioters during the draft. At this period Bryant wrote The Poet and The Path, and began the translation of the Odyssey, the fifth book being published in the Atlantic Monthly. A collection of his more recent poems was brought out by D. Appleton & Co., under the title of the Thirty Poems, the translation of the fifth book of the Odyssey being included. (See letter, pp. 194–195, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) In this year he delivered his poem entitled Fifty Years, at the semi-centennial of the class of 1813 at Williamstown. His poems were presented to the Emperor of Brazil, who sent his portrait to Bryant. (See letters, pp. 199–200, vol. ii, Godwin's Life; also Speech on behalf of Missouri Loyalist, p. 201.)

1864.

The volume of Thirty Poems brought forth letters from H. W. Longfellow and R. H. Dana. (See pp. 206–208, Godwin's Life.) October 13th, writing to J. T. Fields, of Boston, he says: "I send you a poem, My Autumn Walk, for the Atlantic Monthly. Ask me for no more verses. A septuagenarian has passed the time when it is becoming for him to occupy himself with The Rhymes and Rattles of the Man and Boy." November 15th, the Century Club celebrated his seventieth birthday with the greatest enthusiasm. (See pp. 214–220, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) He delivered an address at the laying of the corner-stone of the new Academy of Design building.

1865.

At the beginning of this year he wrote a letter To the Union Army. (See pp. 221–223, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) He

was pushing a petition to abolish slavery throughout the United States, and wrote to Mr. Everett for assistance. (See p. 224, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) At the opening of the new building of the Academy of Design he delivered the inaugural address. He wrote an Ode on the Death of Lincoln, but refused to write a memoir of him. One of the mammoth trees of California was named for him this year. (See Bryant's letter, p. 233, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) His poem on The Death of Slavery, written at this time, was brought forth by the passage of the Constitutional Amendment. (See pp. 235, 236, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) He purchased his old homestead at Cummington.

1866.

He says, February 19th, writing to his friend Dr. Samuel Osgood, in reply to his request for a hymn: "I have written an occasional poem at your suggestion, which is more than I have done for any man for long years, etc. . . . In the winter of life the fountain of Hippocrene crystallizes into ice; and if I were ever so young, occasional verses would be a dangerous experiment. . . . I have more requests to write than perhaps you would imagine, and am forced to give them all the same answer." (See p. 240, vol. ii, Godwin's Life, for important letter to Dr. Samuel Osgood.) The poet's wife died on July 27th of this year. (See Letters, pp. 244–250, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) In the fall Mr. Bryant wrote the poem October, 1866. (See letter to J. T. Fields, who asked for verses for Atlantic Monthly, p. 250, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) He continued his translation of the Odyssey, writing forty lines a day, and carrying a pocket edition of Homer with him wherever he went. In October Mr. Bryant sailed for Europe, visited Spain and Italy, and met Garibaldi, whom he had known in America. He was invited to go with him to Naples, but could not accept. He returned home in August. (See pp. 252–263, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.)

1868.

He retired from his office as President of the American Free Trade League, a farewell dinner being given to him on January 30th.

1869.

In February he delivered an address before the New York Historical Society on the life and character of Fitz-Greene Halleck, who died November 19, 1867. Although engaged with his translations of Homer, Bryant wrote several poems at this period—A Brighter Day, Among the Trees, A May Evening. Also a volume of Travels, Letters from the East, brief after-dinner speeches, and an address at the founding of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

1870.

Vol. i of the Iliad was issued in February, and vol. ii in June. Vol. i of the Odyssey, September, 1871; vol. ii, March, 1872. (See North American Review, April, 1871, and London Saturday Review, April 23, 1870.) Mr. G. C. Verplanck died in March, and Bryant delivered a memorial address on May 17th before the Historical Society. He also delivered a speech on Translators of Homer at the Williams College alumni dinner; on the Franco-Prussian War at a German fair; on Women and Peace at a woman's convention; and on Free Trade at a Cooper Union meeting. He made the poetical translations for Mrs. Theresa Robinson's Fifteen Years, besides writing the reminiscences referred to of Miss C. M. Sedgwick for her Memoirs, prepared by Miss Mary Dewey. The Library of Poetry and Song engaged his attention at this time. His work consisted of revising, rejecting, and suggesting other poems, and in writing a general introduction. (See p. 94, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.)

1871.

He passed the early summer of this year at Roslyn, the later part at Cummington, and the winters in New York. In a letter to Joseph H. Richards he says, March 30th: "I rise early at this time of the year—about half-past five; in summer half an hour or even an hour earlier. Immediately, with very little encumbrance of clothing, I begin a series of exercises for the most part designed to expand the chest and at the same time call into action all the muscles and articulations of the body." (See pp. 297–299, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) The first volume of the

Odyssey, in twelve books, was finished in April. In January he delivered an address on Italian Unity in the Academy of Music. In May he spoke at the dinner of the Joint High Commissioners, who had just completed a trade treaty between England and America. He also delivered an address on the Progress of German Literature at a dinner to the German ambassador. He addressed an open-air meeting at the unveiling of a statue to Professor Morse in Central Park in June, and later on spoke on the Darwinian Theory to the Williams College alumni. (See letter, p. 299, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) On December 7th he sent the last of the Odyssey to his publishers, Messrs. J. R. Osgood & Co. (See pp. 311–317, vol. ii, Godwin's Life, for details of the completion of this work.)

1872.

After the completion of the Odyssey Mr. Bryant went to the Bahamas, Cuba, and Mexico. (See poem, A Memory, p. 318, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) In Mexico a formal reception was given to him, and he was made an honorary member of the Geographical Society. He was treated with the highest honors by President Juarez and all Mexico. (See Bryant's letter of acknowledgment, p. 322, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) He returned to New York in April. He presented a library to his native town of Cummington.

1873.

During these years he made about a dozen speeches or more in behalf of the Home for Incurables of the Children's Aid Society, on municipal reform at a great meeting in Cooper Institute, for the opening of the new Princeton library, at the unveiling of the statue of Shakespeare in Central Park for his English friends, and at the erection of a statue to Sir Walter Scott for his Scotch friends, besides remarks at the Burns dinner, the dinner to Salvini the actor, and elsewhere. He prepared a volume for G. P. Putnam containing his orations and speeches. He addressed the people of Roslyn on the subject of Mexico, and went on a southern tour. He was elected to the Russian Academy, Baron Tolsteneff presenting his name in an eloquent oration. In July his address at the opening of the Princeton Library was delivered.

1874.

He began his eightieth year with an address on Franklin before the Typographical Society on January 17th. On February 24th he made a speech at a free-trade mass meeting at Cooper Union. He wrote an introduction to a work on Picturesque America. On November 3d he was presented with an address, signed by thousands, congratulating him on reaching his eightieth year. (See pp. 348, 349, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.)

1875.

A new edition of the Library of Poetry and Song was projected at this time, and Mr. Bryant gave it his hearty assistance, writing an introduction to it. (See pp. 353–356, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) Bryant at this time interested himself in a new edition of Shakespeare, writing a preface for it when finished. This was never published owing to delay about the illustrations. He was entertained by Governor Tilden at Albany, both branches of the Legislature adjourning in his honor. He addressed both Houses. (See pp. 357–359, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) He began a poem on the growth of New York, but never finished it. (See p. 365, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) In September he delivered an address before the Goethe Society, and later presided at the breakfast given to Lord Houghton by the Century Club.

1876.

He was asked to write a Centennial Ode, but sent only a hymn to be sung by the choir. His poem The Flood of Years was composed at this time, and on the 20th of June the commemorative vase of bronze was presented to him at Chickering Hall, Dr. Samuel Osgood making the presentation address. The Emperor of Brazil visited New York at this time, and greeted Mr. Bryant as an old friend, sending him a letter, the text of which will be found on p. 373, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.

1877.

He delivered an address at the unveiling of the statue to Fitz-Greene Halleck in Central Park, and on November 3d

attended a complimentary reception at the Goethe Club, making an address. Our Fellow-Worshippers was the closing poem of this year.

1878.

In this the last year of his life Mr. Bryant walked daily to his office and back, a distance of three miles. He spoke at a reception to Lord Dufferin given by the Geographical Society; at a dinner given to Bayard Taylor, recently appointed minister to Germany; before the Society for the Suppression of Cruelty to Children; and at a breakfast of clergymen of all denominations. On February 2d he attended the meeting of the Geographical Society, at which Lord Dufferin was elected an honorary member on motion of Bayard Taylor. On April 10th he attended a "Commers" given by the German Social Science Association to Bayard Taylor. He says of this "Commers": "There were five hundred people at fifteen tables in an immense dining hall, besides the Arion singers in the gallery, who, in the clouds of tobacco smoke which ascended from the beer-drinkers below, looked like the gods on Olympus as they are sometimes seen in pictures. Beer and cigars composed the bill of fare, and the exercises consisted of songs and speeches," etc. He attended a breakfast at the Clergymen's Club and made a speech. (See p. 393, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.) May 27th he wrote his last letter—a criticism of a poem sent to him by R. H. Stoddard.

On May 29th he came to the city, spent the morning working at his desk, and in the afternoon drove to Central Park, where he delivered an oration at the unveiling of a statue to the Italian patriot Mazzini. His last words in public were an apostrophe to civil and religious liberty:

> Image of the Illustrious Champion of Civil and Religious Liberty, cast in enduring bronze to typify the imperishable renown of thy original! Remain for ages yet to come where we place thee in this resort of millions; remain till the day shall dawn—far distant though it may be—when the rights and duties of human brotherhood shall be acknowledged by all the races of mankind.

He went to the house of General James Grant Wilson after the ceremonies were over and fell on the doorstep, receiving

injuries from which he died on the 12th of June, after an illness of several weeks. His funeral occurred on the 14th of June at All Souls' Church, and the interment took place at Roslyn. Thus as he had wished the old poet was laid at rest.

I gazed upon the glorious sky
And the green mountains round;
And thought, that when I came to lie
Within the silent ground,
'Twere pleasant, that in flowery June,
When brooks sent up a cheerful tune,
And groves a joyous sound,
The sexton's hand, my grave to make,
The rich, green mountain turf should break.

CHRONOLOGY OF BRYANT'S POEMS.

1803.

In my ninth year I began to make verses, some of which were utter nonsense. See pp. 22–23, Godwin's Life, for extracts from the poems.

1804.

Description of School, declaimed on schoolroom floor.

1807.

Above poem first published in the Hampshire Gazette of March 18th, under the signature of C. B., Northampton, Mass., March 18, 1807. Other pieces of verse were sent anonymously to the paper about the same time, but they can not now be identified.

1808.

The Embargo, printed in Boston, 1808.

1809.

The Embargo, reprinted 1809, together with The Spanish Revolution, Connecticut River, Reward of Literary Merit, The Contented Ploughman, Drought, Translation from Horace, Carmen 22d, Book I.

1810–1813.

On pp. 76–82 of Godwin's Life will be found extracts from poems of this period, which were never published in full or recognized by Mr. Bryant in collected editions of his poems.

1811.

Thanatopsis was written at this time. See pp. 98–101, Godwin's Life. Pp. 90–118, Godwin's Life, contain still further extracts from the unpublished poems of this period.

1814.

The Yellow Violet.

1815.

I Cannot Forget with what Fervid Devotion, and The Hunter of the West. To a Waterfowl.

1817.

Thanatopsis, published in the North American Review for September 17th. Agricultural Ode, delivered before the Berkshire Agricultural Society. The Fragment (afterward known as The Inscription for the Entrance to a Wood). Love's Power.

1818.

Agricultural Ode, published. To a Waterfowl, published in the North American Review for March. A Friend on his Marriage, published in the North American Review for March. Version of Simonides, Danaë, published in the North American Review for March. Essay on American Poetry, published in the North American Review for July. Happy Temperament, published in the North American Review for July. The Burial-place, composed at Great Barrington, first published in Dana's Idleman, 1821.

1819.

Green River, written in Great Barrington, published in Dana's Idleman, 1821.

1820.

A Winter Piece, written in Great Barrington, published in Dana's Idleman, 1821. A Hymn to Death, Great Barrington, published in the New York Review, October, 1825. Oh Fairest of the Rural Maids, written at Stockbridge, published in the edition of 1832.

1821.

The West Wind, published in Dana's Idleman. A Walk at Sunset, published in Dana's Idleman.

1822.

Spain, written at Great Barrington. The Ages, Phi Beta Kappa, Poem, August 30th.

1823.

The Indian Girl's Lament. Ode for an Agricultural Celebration, written at Great Barrington, p. 71, edition 1883.

1824.

Massacre at Scio, written at Great Barrington. March, written at Great Barrington on March 24th, published in the United States Literary Gazette, June 1st. Rizpah, published in the United States Literary Gazette, April 12th. The Old Man's Funeral, published in the United States Literary Gazette, May 1st. The Rivulet, written at Cummington in 1823, published in the United States Literary Gazette, May 15th. To ——, written at Cummington in 1824, published in the United States Literary Gazette, June 15th. An Indian Story, written at Great Barrington, published in the United States Literary Gazette, July 1st. Summer Wind, written at Great Barrington, published in the United States Literary Gazette, July 15th. An Indian at the Burial-place of his Fathers, written at Great Barrington, published in the United States Literary Gazette, August 1st. Love's Seasons, written at Great Barrington in 1824, published in the United States Literary Gazette, August 15th. I Broke the Spell that Held Me Long, written at Great Barrington in 1824, published in the Atlantic Souvenir, 1825. Hymn of the Waldenses, published in the United States Literary Gazette, September 1, 1824. Monument Mountain, published in the United States Literary Gazette, September 15th. After a Tempest, published in the United States Literary Gazette, October 1st. Autumn Woods, published in the United States Literary Gazette, October 15th. Mutation, published in the United States Literary Gazette, November 15th. November, published in the United States Literary Gazette, November 15th. Song of the Greek Amazon, published in the United States Literary Gazette, December 1st. To a Cloud, published in the United States Literary Gazette, December 15th.

1825.

The Murdered Traveller, published in the United States Literary Gazette, January 14th. Hymn to the North Star,

published in the United States Literary Gazette, January 15th. The Lapse of Time, published in the United States Literary Gazette, February 15th. The Song of the Stars, published in the United States Literary Gazette, March 1st. A Forest Hymn, published in the United States Literary Gazette, April 1st. June, written at Great Barrington in 1825, published in the Atlantic Souvenir, 1826. The African Chief, written in New York, 1825, published in the United States Review and Literary Gazette, December, 1826. The Greek Partisan, published in the United States Literary Gazette, May, 1825. A Song of Pitcairn's Island, published in the New York Review, June, 1825. The Firmament, published in the New York Review, July, 1825. Lines on Revisiting the Country, published in the New York Review, August, 1825. To a Mosquito, published in the New York Review, October, 1825. The Death of the Flowers, published in the New York Review, 1825.

1826.

Springtime, published in the United States Literary Gazette, July, 1826. Mary Magdalen, published in the United States Review, October, 1826. Meditation on Rhode Island Coal, published in the New York Review, April. I Cannot Forget with what Fervid Devotion, written at Cummington, 1815, published in the New York Review, February, 1826. The New Moon, published in the New York Review, March, 1826. The Life of the Blessed, written in New York, 1826, published in the New York Review, May, 1827. The Journey of Life, written in New York, 1826, edition of 1832. The Gladness of Nature, published in the United States Literary Gazette. Midsummer, published in the United States Literary Gazette, July. A Summer Ramble, published in the New York Mirror, August. The Two Graves, published in the United States Literary Gazette, August. The Conjunction of Jupiter and Venus, published in the United States Literary Gazette, September. October, published in the United States Review and Literary Gazette, October. The Damsel of Peru, published in the United States Review and Literary Gazette, November.

1827.

Spring in Town, published in the United States Review, April. A Scene on the Bank of the Hudson, published in the Talisman, 1828. The Hurricane, written in New York, 1827, published in the Talisman, 1828. William Tell, written in New York, 1827, published in the Talisman, 1828.

1828.

The Past, written in New York, 1828, published in the Talisman, 1829. Upon the Mountain's Distant Head, written in New York, 1828, published in the Talisman, 1829. The Lament of Romero, published in the New York Review, February, 1826, and Talisman, 1829. The Greek Boy, written in New York, 1828, published in the Talisman, 1829. The Hunter's Serenade, written in New York, 1828, published in the Talisman, 1829.

1829.

The Evening Wind, written in New York, 1829, published in the Talisman, 1830. Love and Folly, written in New York, 1829, published in the Talisman, 1830. When the Firmament Quivers, written in New York, 1829, published in the Talisman, 1830. The Siesta, written in New York, 1829, published in the Talisman, 1830. Innocent Child and Snow White Flower, written in New York, 1829, published in the Talisman, 1830. The Alcayde of Molina, written in New York, 1829, published in the Talisman, 1830. To the River Arve, written in New York, 1829, published in the Talisman, 1830. The Death of Aliatar, written in New York, 1829, published in the Talisman, 1830. To Cole, the Painter, Departing for Europe, written in New York, 1829, published in the Talisman, 1830. The Twenty-second of December, written for the New England Dinner in New York, published in the Talisman, 1829. To the Fringed Gentian, written in New York in 1829. Edition of 1832.

1830.

Hymn of the City, published in the Christian Examiner.

1831.

Song of Marion's Men, published in the New York Mirror, November.

1832.

The Prairies, written in Illinois in 1832, published in the Knickerbocker Magazine, December, 1833. The Arctic Lover, written in New York in 1832, published in the Knickerbocker Magazine, January, 1833. The Hunter of the Prairies, written in Illinois in 1832, published in the New York Mirror, 1834.

1834.

Earth, written in Pisa in 1834, published in the New York Mirror, March, 1835. The Serenade, published in the New York Mirror, February, 1834.

1835.

Seventy-Six, published in the New York Mirror, May, 1835. Song, published in the New York Mirror, July, 1835. To the Apennines, written in Italy in 1835, published in the New York Mirror, August, 1835. The Knight's Epitaph, written in Pisa in 1835, published in the New York Mirror, September, 1835. The Child's Funeral, written in Sorrento in 1835, published in the Democratic Review, 1835. The Living Lost, published in the New York Mirror, September, 1836. The Hunter's Vision, published in the New York Mirror, November, 1835. The Strange Lady, written in Heidelberg in 1835, published in the New York Mirror, May, 1836. Life, written in Munich in 1835. Edition of 1842.

1836.

The Sharpening of the Sabre, written in New York in 1836, published in the Evening Post, July, 1836. Earth's Children Cleave to Earth, published in the New York Mirror, July, 1836. The Count of Griers, published in the New York Mirror, January, 1836. The Green Mountain Boys, published in the New York Mirror, November, 1836. Catterskill Falls, published in the New York Mirror, November, 1836. A Presentiment, written in New York in 1836, published in the New York Mirror, April, 1837.

1837.

The Battlefield, published in the Democratic Review, October, 1837.

1838.

The Death of Schiller, published in the Democratic Review, August, 1838.

1839.

The Future Life, published in the Democratic Review, March, 1839, reprinted in the Cypress Wreath, 1844. The Fountain, published in the Democratic Review, April, 1839. The Winds, published in the Knickerbocker Magazine, April, 1839. In Memory of William Leggett, published in the Democratic Review, November, 1839.

1840.

I Think of Thee, written in New York in 1840, published in Godey's Lady's Book, January, 1844. The Old Man's Counsel, published in the Democratic Review, February, 1840. An Evening Revery, written in New York, 1840, published in the Knickerbocker Magazine, January, 1841. A Dream, published in the Democratic Review, December, 1841.

1842.

A Northern Legend, written in New York in 1842, published in Graham's Magazine, January, 1843. The Painted Cup, written in Illinois in 1842, published in the Democratic Review. The Antiquity of Freedom, published in the Knickerbocker Magazine, May, 1842. The Maiden's Sorrow, written in New York in 1842, published in the Home Library, 1844. A Hymn to the Sea, written in Cape Ann, Mass., in 1842, published in the Christian Examiner, September, 1842. The Return of Youth, published in Graham's Magazine, October, 1842. Noon, written in Weehawken in 1842, published in the Home Library, 1844.

1843.

The Crowded Street, published in Graham's Magazine, January, 1843. Paradise of Tears, published in Graham's Magazine, January, 1843. The White-footed Deer, published in the Home Library, 1844.

1844.

The Waning Moon, published in Graham's Magazine, July, 1844.

1845.

The Stream of Life, published in Graham's Magazine, July, 1845. The Unknown Way, written at Roslyn in 1845, published in Graham's Magazine, December, 1846.

1846.

The Land of Dreams, written in New York in 1846, published in Graham's Magazine, January, 1847. Oh Mother of a Mighty Race, written in New York in 1846, published in Graham's Magazine, July, 1847.

1849.

The Planting of the Apple-Tree, written in Roslyn in 1849, published in the Atlantic Monthly, January, 1864. The May Sun Sheds an Amber Light, written in Roslyn in 1849, published in the Knickerbocker Magazine, May, 1852.

1850.

The Lady of Castle Windeck. The Saw Mill, published in Graham's Magazine, February, 1850.

1853.

The Burial of Love, written in New York, 1853, published in Graham's Magazine, 1854. The Conqueror's Grave, written in New York, 1853, published in Putnam's Magazine, January, 1854. The Voice of Autumn, written in Roslyn in 1853, published in Graham's Magazine, January, 1854.

1854.

The Snow Shower, written in Roslyn, published in the Knickerbocker Gallery, 1855. A Rain-Dream, written in Roslyn, published in the Crayon, January, 1855.

1855.

Robert of Lincoln, written in Roslyn, published in Putnam's Magazine, June, 1855. The Twenty-seventh of March, written in Roslyn, March, 1855.

1857.

The Lost Bird, written in Madrid in 1857, published in the New York Ledger, 1858. Ruins of Italica, written in Madrid in 1857, published in Thirty Poems, 1863. An Invitation to the Country, published in Harper's Weekly, May, 1857. A Song for New Year's Eve, written in New York, published in Harper's Magazine, January, 1859. The River by Night, written in Naples, 1857, published in Harper's Magazine, June, 1858.

1858.

The Swallow, written in Naples, February 8, 1858. A Sick-Bed, written in Naples, May, 1858, published in the New York Ledger, July 23, 1859. A Day-Dream, written in Naples, published in the New York Ledger, January 5, 1860. The Life That Is, written in Castellamare, May, 1858, published in Thirty Poems, 1864. The Prairies Glow with Flowers, written in Princeton, Ill., 1858.

1859.

The Old World Sparrow, written in Roslyn in 1859. The Song of the Sower, written in Roslyn in 1859, published in Thirty Poems, 1864. The New and the Old, written in Roslyn in 1859.

1860.

The Cloud on the Way, written in New York in 1860, published in the New York Ledger, February, 1860. The Tides, written in Roslyn in 1860, published in the New York Ledger, July 28, 1860. Italy, written in Roslyn in 1860, published in the New York Ledger, October 20, 1860. Waiting by the Gate, written in New York in 1860, published in Thirty Poems, 1864.

1861.

The Constellations, written in Roslyn, published in Thirty Poems, 1864. Not Yet, written in Roslyn in July, published in the New York Ledger, August 17, 1861. Our Country's Call, written in Cummington in September, published in the New York Ledger, November, 1861. The Third of November, written in Roslyn, published in Thirty Poems, 1864. Civil War, written in New York, 1861. The Song Sparrow, written in Roslyn, August, 1861, published in the Williams Magazine.

1862.

The Better Age, written in Roslyn in 1862. A Tale of Cloudland, written in Roslyn in 1862. Castles in the Air, written in Roslyn in 1862, published in the Atlantic Magazine, January, 1866. Sella, written in Roslyn in 1862.

1863.

Fifty Years, written in Roslyn in 1863, published at Williams College. The Little People of the Snow, written in Roslyn in 1863, published in Thirty Poems, 1864. The Poet, written in Roslyn in 1863, published in Thirty Poems, 1864. The Path.

1864.

To the Nightingale, 1864. The Return of the Birds, written in Roslyn, March, 1864, published in the Atlantic Monthly, July, 1864. My Autumn Walk, written in Roslyn, October, 1864, published in the Atlantic Monthly, January, 1865.

1865.

Dante, written in New York, published in the Atlantic Monthly, January, 1866. Abraham Lincoln, Poetical Tribute to the Memory of Abraham Lincoln, written in New York April, 1865, published in the Atlantic Monthly, January, 1866. A Legend of St. Martin, written in Roslyn in 1865. The Words of the Koran, written in Roslyn, November, 1865.

1866.

The Order of Nature, written in Roslyn in 1866; edition of 1871. The Death of Slavery, written in Roslyn, May, 1866, published in the Atlantic Monthly, July, 1866.

1867.

A Brighter Day, written in Roslyn, October, 1867, published in the New York Ledger, January 4, 1868.

1868.

Among the Trees, written in Roslyn, published in Putnam's Magazine, January, 1869.

1869.

May Evening, written in Roslyn, published in Appleton's Journal, May, 1869.

1872.

Tree-Burial, written in Roslyn, published in the New York Ledger, August 17, 1872. A Legend of the Delaware, written in Roslyn, published in the New York Ledger, November 9, 1872.

1873.

The Poet's First Song, written in Roslyn, November, 1873, published in The Mayflower, April, 1876. The Two Travellers, written in Roslyn, published in the Atlantic Monthly, January, 1874.

1875.

The Ascension, written in New York, December, 1875, published in the Independent. The Mystery of Flowers, written in Roslyn in 1875. Christmas in 1875, written in New York, published in the New York Evening Post, December, 1875. Our Fellow-Worshippers, written in Roslyn.

1876.

The Dead Patriarch, written in Roslyn in 1876. To ——, written in Roslyn in 1876. The Flood of Years, written in Roslyn, published in Scribner's Monthly, July, 1876. A Lifetime, written in Cummington in 1876.

1877.

The Battle of Bennington, written August 16, 1877. In Memory of John Lothrop Motley, written September, 1877, published in the International Review.

1878.

The Twenty-second of February, written in New York in February, published in the Sunday-School Times. Cervantes, written April 23, 1878.

PRINCIPAL EDITIONS OF THE POEMS.

1808.

The | Embargo, | or | Sketches of the Times; | A | Satire. | By a Youth of Thirteen. | Boston: Printed for the Purchasers. | 1808.

Title and pp. 3–12.

1809.

The | Embargo; | or | Sketches of the Times. | A Satire. | The second edition corrected and enlarged. | Together with the | Spanish Revolution | and | Other Poems. | By William Cullen Bryant. | Boston: | Printed for the author, by E. G. House, | No. 5, Court Street. | 1809.

Collation: Title as above. Certificate of Copyright on verso, p. 2, viz.:

District of Massachusetts. Be it remembered, that on the eighth day of February, in the thirty-third year of the independence of the United States of America, Peter Bryant, of the said district, has deposited in this office the title of a book, the right whereof he claims as proprietor, in the words following, *to wit*, The Embargo, or Sketches of the Times; a Satire. The second edition corrected and enlarged; together with The Spanish Revolution; and other Poems, by William Cullen Bryant, etc.

Advertisement, p. 3, viz.:

A DOUBT having been intimated in the Monthly Anthology of June last, whether a youth of thirteen years could have been the author of this poem—in justice to his merits the friends of the writer feel obliged to certify the fact from their personal knowledge of himself and his family, as well as his literary improvement and extraordinary talents. They would premise, that they do not come uncalled before the public, to bear this testimony—they would prefer that he should be judged by his works, without favour or affection. As the doubt has been suggested, they deem it merely an act of justice to remove it—after which they leave him a candidate for favour in common with other literary adventurers. They, therefore, assure the public, that Mr. Bryant, the

author, is a native of Cummington, in the County of Hampshire, and in the month of November last arrived at the age of fourteen years. The facts can be authenticated by many of the inhabitants of that place, as well as by several of his friends who give this notice; and if it be deemed worthy of further inquiry, the printer is enabled to disclose their names and places of residence. *February, 1809.*

Preface, pp. 5–6, viz.:

The first sketch of the following poem was written, when the *terrapin policy* of our Administration, in imposing the Embargo, exhibited undeniable evidence of its hostility to Commerce, and proof positive, that its political character was deeply tinctured with an unwarrantable partiality for *France.* &c., &c.

Text, pp. 7–36. The Embargo, pp. 7–20. The Spanish Revolution, pp. 21–26. Ode to Connecticut River, pp. 27–29. The Reward of Literary Merit, pp. 29–31. Enigmas, pp. 31–33. The Contented Ploughman, pp. 33–35. Drought, p. 35. Translation from Horace, Lib. 1, Car. xxii, p. 36.

1821.

Poems | by | William Cullen Bryant. | Cambridge: | Printed by Hilliard and Metcalf. | 1821.

Collation: 12mo, pp. 44. Brown paper boards with title as above. Title as above. Verso blank. Advertisement.

The first poem in this collection was delivered before a literary association. Some of the others have appeared before, in different periodical publications, and are now by permission, inserted in this volume.

Text, pp. 7–44. Sub-title, The Ages. Poem, The Ages, pp. 7–24. Sub-title, To a Waterfowl. Poem, To a Waterfowl, pp. 27–28. Translation of a Fragment of Simonides, pp. 29–30. Inscription for the Entrance into a Wood, pp. 31–32. The Yellow Violet, pp. 33–34. Song, p. 35. Green River, pp. 36–38. Sub-title, Thanatopsis. Poem, Thanatopsis, pp. 41–44.

Mr. Godwin, in the two-volume edition of the poems, published in 1883, says of the date when Thanatopsis was written:

Mr. Bryant was himself for a while somewhat uncertain as to the precise time in which this poem was written. In answer

to a gentleman, Mr. S. N. Holliday, who put the question to him, he wrote, under date of New York, March 15, 1855, as follows:

I cannot give you any information of the occasion which suggested to my mind the idea of my poem Thanatopsis. It was written when I was seventeen or eighteen years old—I have not now at hand the memorandums which would enable me to be precise—and I believe it was composed in my solitary rambles in the woods. As it was first committed to paper, it began with the half-line—"Yet a few days, and thee"—and ended with the beginning of another line with the words—"And make their bed with thee." The rest of the poem—the introduction and the close—was added some years afterward, in 1821, when I published a little collection of my poems at Cambridge."

He was seventeen years old November 3, 1811, and he wrote the poem shortly after he left Williams College, in the summer of that year. It was put away with others for revision, when his father found it, and procured it to be published in The North American Review of 1817. As this poem occupies so prominent a position in the history of American literature, I reproduce it here as it was originally written and printed. The reader will easily discover the changes made in it by the author between that time and 1821, when it was first given to the public in its present shape. It is needless to say that the four rhymed stanzas prefixed to it were not intended to accompany it, but, as they were found in the same package with Thanatopsis, they were mistakenly supposed to be an introduction.—EDITOR.

THANATOPSIS.

Not that from life and all its woes
  The hand of death shall set me free;
Not that this head shall then repose
  In the low vale most peacefully.

Ah, when I touch time's farthest brink,
  A kinder solace must attend;
It chills my very soul to think
  On that dread hour when life must end.

In vain the flattering verse may breathe
  Of ease from pain and rest from strife,

There is a sacred dread of death
Inwoven with the strings of life.

This bitter cup at first was given
When angry Justice frowned severe;
And 'tis the eternal doom of heaven
That man must view the grave with fear.

—Yet a few days, and thee
The all-beholding sun shall see no more
In all his course; nor yet in the cold ground,
Where thy pale form was laid, with many tears,
Nor in the embrace of ocean, shall exist
Thy image. Earth, that nourished thee, shall claim
Thy growth, to be resolv'd to earth again;
And, lost each human trace, surrend'ring up
Thine individual being, shalt thou go
To mix forever with the elements,
To be a brother to th' insensible rock
And to the sluggish clod, which the rude swain
Turns with his share, and treads upon. The oak
Shall send its roots abroad, and pierce thy mould.

Yet not to thy eternal resting-place
Shalt thou retire alone—nor couldst thou wish
Couch more magnificent. Thou shalt lie down
With patriarchs of the infant world—with kings,
The powerful of the earth, the wise, the good,
Fair forms, and hoary seers of ages past,
All in one mighty sepulchre. The hills
Rock-ribb'd and ancient as the sun, the vales
Stretching in pensive quietness between,
The venerable woods, the floods that move
In majesty, and the complaining brooks
That wind among the meads and make them green,
Are but the solemn decorations all
Of the great tomb of man. The golden sun,
The planets, all the infinite host of heaven,
Are glowing on the sad abodes of death
Through the still lapse of ages. All that tread
The globe are but a handful to the tribes
That slumber in its bosom. Take the wings
Of morning, and the Borean desert pierce,

Or lose thyself in the continuous woods
That veil the Oregon, where he hears no sound
Save his own dashings—yet the dead are there,
And millions in those solitudes, since first
The flight of years began, have laid them down
In their last sleep. The dead reign there alone.
So shalt thou rest; and what if thou shalt fall
Unnoticed by the living, and no friend
Take note of thy departure? Thousands more
Will share thy destiny. The tittering world
Dance to the grave. The busy brood of care
Plod on, and each one chases as before
His favorite phantom; yet all these shall leave
Their mirth and their employments, and shall come,
And make their bed with thee!

Since the edition of 1821, certain lines have been further changed. Thus, page 15, line 7:

—The Barcan desert pierce,

has been written:

—traverse Barca's desert sands,

and then:

—pierce the Barcan wilderness.

Page 15, line 14, was originally:

—and what if thou shouldst fall,
Unnoticed, by the living—

Page 15, lines 25 and 26, stood in 1821:

The bowed with age, the infant in the smile
And beauty of its innocent age cut off.

Page 16, line 3:

To that mysterious realm—

read in 1821:

To the pale realms of shade— EDITOR.

1832.

Poems | by | William Cullen Bryant. | An American. | Edited by | Washington Irving. | London: | J. Andrews, 167, New Bond Street. | MDCCCXXXII.

Collation: 8vo, pp. xii–235. Title as above. Verso; London: J. Moyes, Castle Street, Leicester Square. Dedication

to Samuel Rogers, Esq., pp. iii–vi, signed Washington Irving, London, March, 1832. Author's Preface, pp. vii–viii, viz.:

Most of the following poems have been already printed. The longest, entitled The Ages, was published in 1821, in a thin volume, along with about half a dozen others now included in this collection. With a few exceptions, the remainder have since appeared in different publications, mostly of the periodical kind. The favour with which the public have regarded them, and of which their republication in various compilations seemed to the author a proof, has induced him to collect them into a volume. In preparing them for the press, he has made such corrections as occurred to him on subjecting them to a careful revision. Sensible as he is that no author had ever more cause of gratitude to his countrymen for the indulgent estimate placed by them on his literary attempts, he yet cannot let this volume go forth to the public without a feeling of apprehension, both that it may contain things which did not deserve admission, and that the entire collection may not be thought worthy of the generous and partial judgment which has been passed upon some of the separate poems.

N. Y., January, 1832.

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Text, pp. 1–228. Notes, pp. 229–235.

1832.

Poems | by | William Cullen Bryant. | New York: | Published by E. Bliss, 111 Broadway, | And sold by the principal booksellers. | MDCCCXXXII.

Collation: 12mo, pp. 240. Title as above. Verso, Certificate of Copyright and printer's imprint, as follows:

Entered according to an act of Congress, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, by W. C. Bryant, in the Clerk's Office of the Court of the United States, for the southern district of New York.

New York: Ludwig & Tolefree, Printers. Corner Vesey & Greenwich Streets.

Preface, p. 3. Text, pp. 5–234. Notes, pp. 235–238. Contents, pp. 239–240.

An edition similar to the above was also printed in Boston in the same year, 1832. The two were in all respects similar.

1834.

Poems | by | William Cullen Bryant. | Boston: | Russell, Odiorne & Metcalf. | 1834.

Collation: 12mo, pp. xii–240. False Title, Bryant's Poems. Full title as above. Verso, Certificate of Copyright, dated 1831, and printer's imprint. Advertisement, p. v, as follows:

> The present edition contains a few poems which were not in the first, and of which two or three have never before appeared in print. The author has also made a few corrections, some of which were suggested by the criticisms which have fallen in his way.

Preface to the First Edition, pp. vii–viii, dated New York, January, 1832. Table of Contents, pp. ix–xi. Three poems which were not in the previous editions of 1832 are: The Prairies; Sonnet, from the Portuguese of Somedo; and The Journey of Life. Text, pp. 1–234. Notes, pp. 235–240.

1836.

First Title-Page:

Poems | by | William Cullen Bryant. | Vignette, A view near West Point, by R. W. Weir.

> ". . . enter this wild wood,
> And view the haunts of nature."
> P. 180.

New York: | Harper & Brothers | 1836.

Second Title-Page:

Poems | by | William Cullen Bryant. | Fourth Edition. | New York: | Harper & Brothers, Cliff St. | 1836.

Collation: 12mo, pp. xii–274. Title as above. Verso, Copyright, 1835. Sub-title, p. iii. Advertisement to the Second Edition, p. v, as follows:

The present edition contains a few poems which were not in the first, and of which two or three have never before appeared in print. The author has also made a few corrections, some of which were suggested by the criticisms which have fallen in his way.

Preface to the First Edition, New York, January, 1832, pp. vii–viii. Contents, pp. ix–xii. Text, pp. 13–267. Notes, pp. 269–274.

The following poems appear in this edition for the first time: Earth, To the Apennines, The Knight's Epitaph, Seventy-six, The Living Lost, The Strange Lady, The Hunter's Vision, Catterskill Falls, The Hunter of the Prairies, The Count of Greiers—From the German, Earth's Children Cleave to Earth.

Four editions of the above collection of poems were made previous to 1839, numbered consecutively from the first to the fifth.

1839.

Poems | by | William Cullen Bryant. | Fifth Edition. | New York: | Harper & Brothers, Cliff St. | 1839.

Collation: 12mo, pp. xii–276. Title as above. Verso, Copyright, 1836. Sub-title, p. iii. Advertisement to the Fifth Edition, p. v, as follows:

The present edition, by the advice of the publishers, is somewhat enlarged. A few corrections have also been made in the text of the poems which were published in the other editions.

Preface to the First Edition, New York, January, 1832, pp. vii–viii. Contents, pp. ix–xii. Text, pp. 13–269. Notes, pp. 271–276.

The only new poem in this edition is The Battlefield, p. 268. There seem to have been at least five reprints of this edition; the last, which is called the tenth edition, having been published in 1843. The destruction by fire of the records of Harper Bros. makes it difficult to be more accurate on this point.

1842.

The Fountain | and | other Poems. | By | William Cullen Bryant. | New York and London: | Wiley and Putnam. | 1842.

Collation: 12mo, pp. 100. False Title. Title as above. Verso, Copyright, 1842, and printer's imprint. Contents, p. v. To the Reader, p. vii:

> The poems which compose this little volume have been written within the last five or six years—some of them merely as parts of a longer one planned by the author, which may possibly be finished hereafter. In the meantime he has been tempted to publish them in this form by the reception which another collection of his verses has already met with among his countrymen. NEW YORK, *July, 1842.*

Sub-title, The Fountain. | Text, pp. 11–96. | Notes, pp. 97–100.

The following poems appear in this edition for the first time: The Fountain, The Winds, The Green Mountain Boys, The Death of Schiller, A Presentiment, The Future Life, The Old Man's Counsel, The Child's Funeral, A Serenade, To the Memory of William Leggett, An Evening Revery, The Painted Cup, A Dream, The Antiquity of Freedom.

1844.

Outside Cover Title: The Home Library. | Poetical Series, No. 1. | The White Footed Deer | and other Poems. | By William Cullen Bryant. | New York: | I. S. Platt, 111, Fulton Street. | Press of the Home Library, 1844.

Collation: 16mo, pp. vi–24. Notes, p. 1.

> This little volume has yellow paper covers, with title as above. The back cover contains an advertisement of the Home Library, edited by Evert A. Duyckinck, in which the statement is made that the poetical series will commence with The White Footed Deer.

False Title, The White Footed Deer and Other Poems. Title, p. iv, The White Footed Deer & Other Poems, by William Cullen Bryant. Copyright on verso, dated 1844, with printers' and stereotyper's names. S. W. Benedict & Co., 128, Fulton St.

Contents, p. vi.

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Advertisement	vii
The White-Footed Deer	1
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The Maiden's Sorrow	9
The Crowded Street	11
The Return of Youth	14
Northern Legend	16
A Summer Ramble	18
The Death of Channing	21
Hymn of the Sea	22
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Advertisement.

All the following trifles in verse except one have been written since the last collection of the author's poems was published.

NEW YORK, *March, 1844.*

Notes, p. 1.

During the stay of Long's expedition at Engineer Cantonment, three specimens of a variety of the common deer were brought in, having all the feet white near the hoofs, and extending to those on the hind feet from a little above the spurious hoofs, etc.

P. 5.

At noon the Hebrew bowed the knee and worshipped. Evening and morn and at noon will I pray and cry aloud, and he shall hear my voice.

1847.

Poems | by | William Cullen Bryant | with Illustrations by E. Leutze. | Engraved by American Artists. | Philadelphia: | Carey and Hart, | 1847. |

Collation: Royal 8vo, pp. 378. Frontispiece, Greek Amazon. Sub-title, Poems by William Cullen Bryant, with vignette portrait, Philadelphia, Carey & Hart. Title as above. Copyright on verso, 1847.

To the Reader, p. 3:

Perhaps it would have been well if the author had followed his original intention, which was to leave out of this volume, as unworthy of republication, several of the poems which made a part of his previous collections. He asks leave to plead the judgment of a literary friend, whose opinion in such matters he highly values, as his apology for having retained them. With the exception of the first and longest poem in the collection, The Ages, they are all arranged according to the order of time in which they were written, as far as it can be ascertained.

NEW YORK, *1846.*

Contents, pp. 5–9. List of illustrations, pp. 11–16. Portrait of Bryant, preceding text. Text, pp. 17–361. Notes, false title, p. 363. Notes, pp. 365–378.

This edition was reprinted complete in one volume without illustrations. Philadelphia, Carey & Hart, 1849.

1854.

Poems | by | William Cullen Bryant. | Collected and arranged | by the Author. | In Two Volumes. | Vol. I. | New York, | D. Appleton and Company, | 346 and 348, Broadway. | London: 16 Little Britain. | MDCCCLIV.

Collation: 12mo, 2 vols. Vol. I, pp. x–296. Vol. II, pp. vi–286. Title as above. Copyright on verso, 1854.

To the Reader. (Prefixed to the Edition of 1846.) P. 3: Advertisement, p. 5.

The present edition has been carefully revised by the author, and some faults of diction and versification corrected. A few poems not in the previous editions have been added.

New York, *August, 1854.*

Contents of Vol. I, pp. 7–10. Sub-title, Poems. Text, pp. 1–286. Notes, pp. 287–296.

Vol. II. Title as above. Contents, pp. 3–6. Sub-title, Poems. Text, pp. 1–268. Notes, 269–286.

This edition was reprinted in 1855, 1856, 1857, 1859, 1860, 1862, 1864, 1864, 1865, 1866, 1869, 1870.

An edition of the above collection of poems was published in one 36mo volume, September, 1854.

A reprint of the Carey & Hart illustrated edition of 1847 was made in this year with the imprint of D. Appleton and Company on the title-page.

Poems | by | William Cullen Bryant. | Collected and arranged by the Author. | Illustrated with seventy-one engravings. | From drawings by eminent artists. | New York: | D. Appleton and Company, 346–348, Broadway.

Collation: Sm. 4to, pp. xvi–344. Title as above. Copyright on verso, 1854. Contents, pp. v–ix. List of illustrations, x–xii. To the Reader, prefixed to the edition

of 1846, p. xiii. Advertisement, prefixed to the edition of 1854, p. xiv. Sub-title, Poems, p. xv. Text, 1–332. Sub-title, Notes, p. 333. Notes, pp. 335–344.

This edition was printed in England, by R. Clay, Bread Street Hill. The following poems appear in this edition for the first time: The Unknown Way, Oh Mother of a Mighty Race, The Land of Dreams, The Burial of Love, The May Sun Sheds an Amber Light, The Voice of Autumn, The Conqueror's Grave, The Snow-shower,* A Rain-Dream,* Robert of Lincoln.*

1864.

Thirty Poems. | William Cullen Bryant. | New York: | D. Appleton and Company, | 443 and 445 Broadway. | London: 16 Little Britain. | MDCCCLXIV.

Collation: 12mo, pp. 222. Title as above. Copyright on verso, 1863. Pp. 3–4.

To the Reader:

> The author has attempted no other classification of the poems in this volume than that of allowing them to follow each other according to the order of time in which they were written. It has seemed to him that this arrangement is as satisfactory as any other, since, at different periods of life, an author's style and habits of thought may be supposed to undergo very considerable modifications. One poem forms an exception to this order of succession, and should have appeared in an earlier collection. Three others have already appeared in an illustrated edition of the author's poems.
>
> New York, *December, 1863.*

Contents, pp. 5–6. Sub-title, Poems, p. 7. Text, pp. 9–210. Sub-title, Notes, p. 211. Notes, pp. 213–222.

The following poems appear in this edition for the first time: The Planting of the Apple-Tree, The Twenty-seventh of March, An Invitation to the Country, Song for New Year's Eve, The Wind and Stream, The Lost Bird—from the Spanish of Carolina Coronado, The Night Journey of a River, The Life that Is, Song, "These Prairies Glow with Flowers," A Sick-

* The last three poems do not appear in the American edition of this date.

Bed, The Song of the Sower, The New and the Old, The Cloud on the Way, The Tides, Italy, A Day-Dream, The Ruins of Italica—from the Spanish of Rioja, Waiting by the Gate, Not Yet, Our Country's Call, The Constellations, The Third of November, 1861, The Mother's Hymn, Sella, The Fifth Book of Homer's Odyssey—translated, The Little People of the Snow, The Poet.

1871.

Poems | by | William Cullen Bryant. | Collected and arranged | by the Author. | New York: | D. Appleton and Company, 549 and 551 Broadway. | London: 16 Little Britain. | 1871.

Collation: 12mo, pp. 390. Frontispiece, portrait of Bryant. Title as above. Copyright on verso, 1871. To the Reader, p. iii, New York, June, 1871. Contents, pp. v–ix. Text, pp. 11–375. Notes, pp. 376–390.

This is known as the "Red-line" Edition, and has been frequently reprinted.

1876.

Poetical Works | of | William Cullen Bryant. | Collected and arranged | by the Author. | Illustrated by one hundred engravings. | From drawings by Birket Foster, Harry Fenn, Alfred Fredericks, and others. | New York: | D. Appleton and Company, | 549 and 551 Broadway.

Collation: Sq. 8vo, pp. x–501. Frontispiece, portrait of Bryant. Title as above. Copyright on verso, 1876. To the Reader, p. iii, dated New York, August, 1876. Contents, pp. v–x. Sub-title, Poems. Text, pp. 3–486. Notes, 487–501.

The illustrations in this edition are the same as those used in the English edition of 1854, with the addition of a new illustration to Thanatopsis, p. 21.

The following poems appear in this edition for the first time: October, 1866, The Order of Nature, Tree-Burial, A Legend of the Delawares, A Lifetime.

1883.

The | Poetical Works | of | William Cullen Bryant, | edited by | Parke Godwin. | In Two Volumes. | Volume First. | New York: | D. Appleton and Company. | 1, 3, and 5 Bond Street. | 1883.

Collation: I, 8vo, pp. 358. False Title, The Life and Works of William Cullen Bryant. Vol. III. Title as above. Copyright on verso, 1883. Preface, pp. v–vi. Original Prefaces, vii–x. Contents, xi–xiv. Sub-title, p. 15. Text, pp. 17–326. Notes, pp. 327–358. Vol. II, pp. 372.

SEPARATE PUBLICATIONS.

1820.

An Oration, | delivered at Stockbridge, July 4, 1820. | By William C. Bryant, Esq. | Stockbridge: Printed by Charles Webster, 1820.

12mo. Title, p. 1 (verso blank). Oration, pp. 3–11 (verso blank.)

1841.

Popular Considerations on Homœopathia: | By William Cullen Bryant, Esq., | delivered before the New York Homœopathic Society, | December 23, 1841. New York [1841].

8vo, pp. 24.

1843.

An Address | to the | People of the United States | in behalf of the American Copyright Club. | Adopted at New York, October 18, 1843. New York: Published by the Club, 1843.

12mo, pp. 20.

1848.

A | Funeral Oration | occasioned by the Death of | Thomas Cole. | Delivered before the | National Academy of Design, | New York, May 4, 1848, | by | William Cullen Bryant. | Published by order of | the Council of the Academy. | New York.

8vo, pp. 42.

1850.

Letters of a Traveller, | or | Notes of Things | Seen in | Europe and America. | By William Cullen Bryant. | New York, | George P. Putnam, 155, Broadway. | London: Richard Bentley, | 1850.

12mo, pp. 442.

This edition was reprinted in 1851, under the title of The Picturesque Souvenir, Letters of a Traveller, published by Putnam, with thirteen steel engravings.

1851.

Reminiscences | of the | Evening Post. | Extracted from the Evening Post | of | November 15, 1851. | With additions and corrections by the Writer. | New York: | William C. Bryant & Co., Printers, 18 Nassau Street, N. Y. | 1851.

12mo, pp. 22.

1859.

Letters of a Traveller. | Second series. | By | William Cullen Bryant. | New York: | D. Appleton and Company | 346 and 348 Broadway. | 1859. |

12mo, pp. 277.

1860.

"How Amiable are Thy Tabernacles, Oh Lord of Hosts." | A | Forest Hymn | by | William Cullen Bryant, | with | Illustrations | by | John A. Nums. | New York: | W. A. Townsend & Co. | [1860].

4to, pp. 32, printed on one side only.

There are two variations of this title-page, one with the imprint "New York, Hurd & Houghton," with plates somewhat worn; the other, "New York, James G. Gregory."

1863.

Class Ode, Fiftieth Anniversary of the Class of 1813 | 1863. | Fifty years, | for the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Class of Williams College, which was graduated in 1813.

4to, 2 pp., printed on one side only, signed W. C. B.

1864.

Hymns | by | William Cullen Bryant.

8vo, pp. iv–40.

Nineteen hymns are included in this collection, which was printed for private circulation only. Bound in black boards. Title in gilt letters on cover.

Book of Hymns, 1864.

"Soon after his father's death (March 20, 1820), while he was yet full of the sentiment it inspired, an appeal was made to him by the Unitarians in aid of a Collection of Hymns they projected. Mr. Henry

D. Sewall, the editor, applied to Miss Catherine M. Sedgwick, of Stockbridge, to use her efforts in his behalf."

In a letter to her brother Robert, of New York, dated May 17, 1820, she writes :

"I wish you would give my best regards to Mr. Sewall, and tell him I have had great success in my agency. I sent for Mr. Bryant last week, and he called to see me on my return from Court. I told him Mr. Sewall had commissioned me to request some contributions from him to a collection of hymns, and he said, without any hesitation, that he was obliged to Mr. Sewall, and would with great pleasure comply with his request," etc.

The following is Miss Sedgwick's reply to Mr. Bryant, written more than forty years afterward, on receipt of a copy of hymns published at that time :

"My dear Mr. Bryant:

"But for your prohibition I should at once, on the receipt of my precious little Hymns, have sent to you my earnest thanks, and told you how vividly they recall the day when the young poet, one of the first objects of my hero-worship, offered me in my dear home the six hymns, etc."

Extract from letter—W. C. B. to Rev. A. P. Putnam, November 15, 1873.

Hymns.

Nos. 1 and 2. Composed for some Ordination. Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. Composed for collection made by Henry D. Sewall. No. 9. Ordination in England. No. 10. After a lapse of thirty years, for Mr. Waterston, Boston. No. 11. For dedication of the Church of the Pilgrims. No. 12. Composed for anniversary of Foreign Missionary Society. No. 13. Written for Mr. Lombard, of Utica, included in a collection at the end of a School Liturgy, compiled in 1859. No. 14. Written at Dr. Osgood's suggestion in 1861–'62, and included by him in his Liturgy. The remaining five, written to complete collection.

1869.

Letters from the East, | by | William Cullen Bryant. | New York: | G. P. Putnam & Son. | 1869.

8vo, pp. 256.

1869.

Some Notices | of the | Life and Writings | of | Fitz-Greene Halleck. | Read before the New York Historical Society on the 3d of February, 1869. | By William Cullen Bryant. | New

York: | Evening Post Steam Presses, 41 Nassau, Cor. Liberty. | 1869.

8vo, pp. 35.

1870.

The | Iliad of Homer. | Translated into English Blank Verse. | By | William Cullen Bryant. | Volume I. | Monogram of Publishers. | Boston: | Fields, Osgood & Co. | 1870.

Royal 8vo. I. pp. 398, with rubricated title. II. pp. 426.

1871.

The | Odyssey of Homer. | Translated into English blank verse. | By | William Cullen Bryant. | Vol. I (and II). | Monogram of publishers. | Boston: | James R. Osgood & Company, | late Ticknor & Fields, and Fields, Osgood & Co. | 1871.

8vo, I, pp. xii–324; II, pp. vi–311.

Electrotyped and printed at Cambridge, Mass., by Welch, Bigelow & Co. Reprinted by James R. Osgood & Co., Boston, 1873, 2 vols., 8vo.

1871.

The | Song of the Sower, | by | William Cullen Bryant. | Illustrated with Forty-two Engravings on Wood. | New York: | D. Appleton and Company. | MDCCCLXXI.

4to, pp. 48.

Bound in heavy embossed brown morocco boards. Illuminated title on back and sides, with vignettes of a harp and plow in gilt, top and bottom.

1873.

The Little | People of the Snow | by | William Cullen Bryant. | Illustrated | from designs by Alfred Fredericks, engraved by A. Bobbett. | New York: | D. Appleton and Company, | 549 and 551, Broadway. | 1873.

4to, pp. 40.

1874.

Among the Trees, | by | William Cullen Bryant. | Illustrated. | From designs by Jervis McEntee, Engraved by Harley. | New York: | G. P. Putnam's Sons, | Fourth Avenue and Twenty-third Street. | [1874].

Sq. 12mo. Printed on one side only. Pp. 39.

Thanatopsis, | by | William Cullen Bryant. | G. P. Putnam's Sons. | New York.

4to, pp. 1–18. Printed on one side only. Illustrations, proofs on India paper.

The | Flood of Years, | by | William Cullen Bryant. | The Illustrations by | W. J. Linton.

4to, pp. 19–46. Printed on one side only. Proofs on India paper.

1878.

The | Flood of Years. | New York: | G. P. Putnam's Sons. | 1878.

4to, pp. 32.

ORATIONS AND ADDRESSES.

1818.

Address on the Bible, Berkshire Star (Stockbridge), February 6th.

This address was delivered before the Bible Society at Great Barrington on the 29th of January, 1818.

1852.

Memorial | of | James Fenimore Cooper. | New York: | G. P. Putnam. | [1852]. | Bryant's Discourse on the Life, Character, and Genius of Cooper, pp. 39–73.

1852.

Report of the Special Committee appointed by the Common Council of the City of New York to make Arrangements for the Reception of Gov. Louis Kossuth, the Distinguished Hungarian Patriot. New York: Published by order of the Common Council, 1852.

8vo, pp. iv–756, with portrait.

Bryant's address as President of the Press Banquet at the Astor House, Monday evening, December 15th, pp. 228–231. (See Orations and Addresses, New York, 1873, p. 261.)

1856.

An address delivered at the fiftieth anniversary of the New York Historical Society.

Address delivered before the New York Horticultural Society at the Exhibition, September 26th. (Orations and Addresses, p. 269, New York, 1873.)

Music in the Public Schools. An address delivered at the close of a series of lectures by Richard Storrs Willis, December 29, 1856. (Orations and Addresses, p. 285, New York, 1873.)

1858.

The Newspaper Press. New England Society Dinner, December 22d. (Prose Writings, p. 208, New York, 1884.)

1859.

Schiller. An address delivered at the Cooper Institute on the occasion of the Schiller Festival, November 11, 1859. (Orations and Addresses, p. 295, New York, 1873.)

1860.

The | Centennial Birthday | of | Robert Burns | as celebrated by the | 1759 (engraved medallion portrait of Burns) 1859 | Burns Club of the City of New York, | Tuesday, January 25, 1859. | Edited by J. Cunningham. | New York, 1860.

8vo, pp. 136, with colored frontispiece.

Mr. Bryant acted as honorary chairman, p. 47.

His speech, pp. 53–57.

1863.

Banquet given in New York on the 16th day of December, 1863, by the Mexican Legation.

8vo, pp. 16.

P. 4, Bryant is mentioned as one of the guests; pp. 14–15, his toast.

1864.

The | Bryant Festival | at | "The Century" | November 5, MDCCCLXIV | New York, | D. Appleton and Company, | 443 & 445 Broadway. | MDCCCLXV.

4to, pp. 88.

Bryant's reply to Mr. Bancroft, pp. 9–13.

1865.

The | Bryant Festival | at | "The Century." | Illustrated Edition. | New York. | Published by the Century Association. | MDCCCLXV.

Collation: 4to, pp. 88. Printed on one side only.

Frontispiece—Photograph of the Century Club House.

Title as above.

Copyright on verso—by the Century Association, 1864.
Only 150 copies printed. No. 36.
Photograph of Bryant.
Text, pp. 3–88.
Mr. Bryant's reply to Mr. Huntington, p. 42.

The | National Academy of Design. | Ceremonies on the occasion of | Laying the cornerstone, | October 21, 1863, | and the | Inauguration of the Building, | April 27, 1865. | New York, | MDCCCLXV.
Royal 8vo, pp. 92.
200 copies printed. July, 1865.
Bryant's address, pp. 20–22.

1865.

Address to the Soldiers of the Union Army, January 1, 1865 (p. 221, Godwin's Life, vol. ii).

1866.

Dinner to Señor Matias Romero, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from Mexico, on the 29th of March, 1864. New York, 1866.

1867.

Banquet | to | Señor Matias Romero, | Envoy Extraordinary and Minister | Plenipotentiary from Mexico | to the United States, | by the | Citizens of New York, | October 2, 1867.
Royal 8vo, 46 pp.
Printed for private distribution. On pp. 3 and 4 Bryant is mentioned as member of the committee, and was the toast-master, pp. 27–30, 36, 38, 40–42, 46.

1868.

Complimentary Dinner to Jonathan Sturges.
8vo, pp. 28.
Bryant was one of the guests (p. 3); his toast, "Literature, the Fine Arts, and Commerce," pp. 22–25.

1868.

Freedom of Exchange. Speech at a dinner given to Mr. Bryant in New York, January 30, 1868. (Orations and Addresses, p. 313, New York, 1873.)

The Electric Telegraph. Speech at a dinner given to Samuel Breese Morse, December 29, 1868. (Orations and Addresses, p. 325, New York, 1873.)

1869.

A History | of the | Celebration of Robert Burns' | 110th Natal Day, | at the Metropolitan Hotel, | New York. | Jersey City, | 1869.

8vo, pp. 99.

Pp. 31–33, Mr. Bryant's toast on Minstrelsy.

1869.

A Metropolitan Art Museum | in the City of New York. | Proceedings of a Meeting | Held at the Theatre of the | Union League Club, Tuesday Evening, November 23, 1869. | Including | Addresses, Remarks, and Letters | by | Mr. Wm. C. Bryant, Prof. Comfort, Mr. R. M. Hunt, Mr. Henry G. Stebbins, Mr. William J. Hoppin, Mr. Russell Sturgis, Rev. Dr. Thompson, Rev. Dr. Bellows, Mr. Marshall O. Roberts, Mr. Geo. Wm. Curtis, and others. | New York. | Printed for the Committee, | 1869.

Pamphlet of 40 pages.

Mr. Bryant's address as president will be found on p. 8.

1870.

Celebration of the 111th Anniversary of Robert Burns' Natal Day, at Delmonico's Hotel, New York, January 25, 1870. New York, 1870.

8vo, pp. 52.

Bryant's toast, "The Memory of Robert Burns," pp. 12–14. (See Prose Writings, New York, 1884, p. 322.)

1870.

Translators of Homer. Speech to the Williams College Alumni, February 22, 1870. (Prose Writings, p. 267. New York, 1884.)

1870.

A Discourse | on the | Life, Character, and Writings | of | Gulian Crommelin Verplanck. | Delivered before the New York Historical Society, | May 17, 1870, | by William Cullen Bryant. | New York. | Printed for the Society. | MDCCCLXX. 60 pages.

1870.

The Mercantile Library. Address delivered on the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Founding of the New York Mercantile Library, November 9, 1870. (Orations and Addresses, p. 345. New York, 1873.)

1871.

The Struggle for Neutrality in America. An address delivered before the New York Historical Society, at their sixty-sixth anniversary, December 13, 1870, by Charles Francis Adams. New York, 1871.

8vo, pp. 52.

Bryant's remarks as foreign corresponding secretary of the Society, pp. 51, 52.

1871.

The Unity of Italy. The American Celebration of the Unity of Italy, at the Academy of Music, New York, January 12, 1871, with the addresses, letters, and comments of the press. New York, 1871.

Royal 8vo, pp. 197.

Bryant's address, pp. 172–175. (See Orations and Addresses, New York, 1873, p. 353.)

1871.

The Settlement of the Alabama Question. The Banquet given at New York [May 23d] to Her Britannic Majesty's High Commissioners by Mr. Cyrus W. Field. A report edited with a short introduction by Justin McCarthy. London, 1871.

8vo, pp. 72, with two group photographs.

Bryant's speech, pp. 62–66.

Negotiation *vs.* War. Remarks made at the dinner given to the High Commissioners who negotiated the Treaty of Washington. New York, May, 1871. (Prose Writings, p. 284. New York, 1884.)

German Literature. Remarks at a dinner given to Baron Gerolt, German Ambassador, May 17, 1871. (Prose Writings, p. 287. New York, 1884.)

The Morse Statue. Address delivered on the unveiling of the statue of Samuel Finlay Breese Morse, June 10, 1871. (Orations and Addresses, p. 361. New York, 1873.)

1871.

Myles Standish, with an Account of the Exercises of Consecration of the Monument Ground on Captain's Hill, Duxbury, August 17, 1871. Prepared by Stephen M. Allen. Boston, 1871.

8vo, pp. 76.

Letter from Bryant on p. 76.

1871.

Darwin's Theory. Remarks at Williams College Alumni Dinner, December 28, 1871. (Prose Writings, p. 291. New York, 1884.)

1872.

Literary Missionaries. Remarks at a lecture of George Macdonald on Hamlet, introducing the lecturer. New York, 1872. (Prose Writings, p. 298. New York, 1884.)

1872.

Reform. Address delivered at a meeting held in the Cooper Institute, September 23, 1872. (Orations and Addresses, p. 381. New York, 1873.)

Sir Walter Scott. Address on the unveiling of the statue of Sir Walter Scott, in Central Park, November 4, 1872. (Orations and Addresses, p. 389. New York, 1873.)

1872.

Sixty-seventh | Anniversary Celebration | of the | New England Society | in the City of New York | at Delmonico's, | December 23, 1872.

8vo, pp. 106.

Bryant's speech, The Press, is on pp. 42–45.

1873.

An address before the Geographical and Statistical Society of Mexico, February, 1773.

(P. 320, Godwin's Life, vol. ii.)

1873.

Shakespeare. Ward's Statue in the Central Park, New York [May 22, 1872]. New York, 1873.

Royal 8vo, pp. 72. Only fifty copies printed.

Bryant's oration is on pp. 15–22. (See Orations and Addresses, New York, 1873, p. 371.)

1873.

The Princeton Library. Address at Princeton, N. J., June 24, 1873, on the opening of the new building for the College Library. (Prose Writings, p. 324. New York, 1884.)

1874.

Franklin as a Poet. Speech at the celebration of Franklin's birthday by the New York Typographical Society, January 17, 1874. (Prose Writings, p. 329. New York, 1884.)

1874.

The Reception of Peter Cooper by the Arcadian Club, on his eighty-fourth birthday, Feb. 12, 1874. Printed for private distribution. New York, 1774.

8vo, pp. 105.

Bryant's speech, pp. 52–54.

1874.

Proceedings at the Mass Meeting of Citizens in the Cooper Institute, New York, Tuesday evening, March 24, 1874, on National Finances. New York, 1874.

8vo, pp. 63.

Speech of Bryant as one of the executive committee, pp. 12–14.

1874.

National Honesty. Address at a mass meeting held in Cooper Institute, March 25, 1874. (Prose Writings, p. 332. New York, 1884.)

1874.

Eightieth Birthday Address, November 3, 1874.
(P. 349, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.)

1875.

Proceedings at the Complimentary Dinner given to Hon. Simeon B. Chittenden by his friends on the occasion of his retirement from business, March 9, 1875. New York. Printed for private distribution. 1875.

8vo, pp. 47.

Bryant's remarks, pp. 18–19.

1875.

Goethe. Address delivered at the Centennial Festival given by the Goethe Club, of New York, in honor of Goethe, August 27, 1875. (Prose Writings, p. 335. New York, 1884.)

Addresses delivered before the Senate and Assembly, State of New York.

(Pp. 358–360, vol. ii, Godwin's Life.)

1876.

Speech at the Burns Dinner, January 25, 1876. (Prose Writings, p. 320. New York, 1884.)

1876.

To | William Cullen Bryant | at Eighty Years. | From his | Friends and Countrymen. | New York: | Scribner, Armstrong & Co., | 743–745, Broadway, | 1876.

Picture of Bryant vase, frontispiece. Sm. 4to, pp. 64.

With full title, both inside and out, pp. 127.

1877.

The | Halleck Memorial. | Edited by | Evart A. Duyckinck. | Privately printed | ——— A Memorial | of | Fitz-Greene Halleck. | A Description of the | Dedication of the Monument. | Erected to his Memory | at | Guilford, Connecticut, | and | of the Proceedings connected with the unveiling of the Poet's Statue in the Central Park. | No poet had died and received

such tribute in America. | Printed for the Committee | by Ammerman and Wilson, | 1 Park Place, New York. | 1877.

Collation: Pp. 72. | Frontispiece. | Portrait of Halleck, Monument, and Guilford, Conn., and Central Park.

1878.

Address delivered at Clergyman's Breakfast, May 1, 1878.

(Vol. ii, Parke Godwin's Life of Bryant, p. 393. New York, 1883.)

Mazzini. Address delivered at the unveiling of the bust of Mazzini, in Central Park, New York city, May 20, 1878. (Prose Writings, p. 343. New York, 1884.)

1879.

Bulletin of the American Geographical Society, November 5, 1878. New York: printed for the Society, 1879.

8vo, pp. 197–298.

On pp. 288–289 are Bryant's remarks at the Arctic Meeting at Chickering Hall, January 31, 1878, at the reception of the Earl of Dufferin.

ESSAYS AND REVIEWS.

1818.

An Essay on American Poetry, with several miscellaneous pieces on a variety of subjects, sentimental, descriptive, moral, and patriotic. By Solyman Brown, A. M. New Haven: Flagg & Gray, 1818. North American Review, July, 1818, pp. 198–211.

Bryant's first review of a book now very rare.

1819.

Trisyllabic Feet in Iambic Measure, North American Review, September, 1819.

1824.

The Ruins of Pæstum, North American Review, No. 19, p. 42. Percy's Masque, North American Review, No. 20, p. 245.

1825.

Hillhouse's Hadad, New York Review, p. 1. Jehan de Nostre Dame's Lives of the Provençal Poets, New York Review, p. 107. Memoirs of Count Segur, New York Review, p. 291. Lives of Provençal Poets, New York Review, p. 104. Rammohun Roy's Precepts of Jesus, New York Review, p. 442. Scott's Lives of the Novelists, New York Review, p. 413. United States Literary Gazette, New York Review, p. 219. Wayland's Two Discourses, New York Review, p. 142. Webster's Address, New York Review, p. 214. Wheaton's Reports, New York Review, p. 203. Memoir of the Life of Richard Henry Lee, etc., New York Review, p. 23. A Pennsylvania Legend, New York Review, The Atheneum Magazine, December, p. 49.

1826.

Memoirs of the Life of the Right Honorable Richard Brinsley Sheridan, New York Review, February, p. 165. Recent

Poetry, New York Review, p. 181. Percival's Poem, New York Review, March, p. 245. Sketches of Corsica, New York Review, April, p. 348. Wheaton's Life of Pinkney, New York Review, May, p. 435.

1872.

Oldham's Poems, Old and New, September, vol. vi, iii, pp. 329–335.

1877.

Abraham Cowley, North American Review, No. 256, May–June, pp. 368–382.

WORKS EDITED BY BRYANT OR CONTAINING ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS.

1817.

North American Review | and | Miscellaneous Journal. | Vol. Fifth. | Boston. | Published by Cummings & Hilliard, | No. 1 Cornhill. | University Press, Hilliard & Metcalf. | 1817.

Thanatopsis is on p. 338.

A Fragment, afterward known as The Inscription to the Entrance of a Wood, is on p. 340.

1818.

North American Review and Miscellaneous Journal, March, To a Friend on his Marriage. March, Version of Simonides. March, The Waterfowl. July, Essay on American Poetry. No. 9, p. 206, Essay on The Happy Temperament.

1821–'22.

The Idleman, by R. H. Dana. Issued in parts. Part I, dated New York, 1821.

Collation: Part I, Vol. I. Title, The Idleman. Inscription, "How various his employments whom the world calls idle." New York, Wiley & Halsted, No. 3 Wall Street, 1821–'22. Certificate of Copyright on verso, dated May 18, 1821. Preface, pp. 3–14. Letter-press, pp. 15–57.

Volume I consists of four parts, with titles as follow: Part I, pp. 15–57, Domestic Life. Part II, pp. 3–63, The Son. Part III, pp. 3–76, Edward and Mary. Part IV, pp. 5–106, Thomas Thornton.

This last part of Vol. I is a double number, with an address to the public on p. 3, signed "The Author."

Volume II. Title and inscription as above, with the date of

1822, and No. 1, Vol. II, in centre of page. Part I, letter-press, pp. 3–156. Paul Felton. Part II. Part III. Part IV, title-page, etc.; letter-press, pp. 3–64. Men and Books.

Mr. Bryant's contributions are as follows: Green River, Part II, p. 61, vol. i. The West Wind, Part I, p. 155, vol. ii. The Burial-Place, Part II, vol. ii. Walk at Sunset, Part III, vol. ii. Winter Scenes, Part IV, p. 61, vol. ii.

This work was published in eight parts, royal 8vo, with brown paper covers, having title in full as above and numbered consecutively, Vol. I: I, II, III, IV, 1821; Vol. II: I, II, III, IV, 1822.

1825.

The | United States | Literary Gazette. | Vol. I. | From April, 1824, to April, 1825. | Boston: | Published by Cummings, Hilliard & Co. | 1825.

Vol. II, April, 1825–October, 1825. Vol. III, October, 1825–April, 1826. Vol. IV, April, 1826–October, 1826.

1826.

The | New York Review and Atheneum Magazine. | Vol. I. | May to November, 1825. | New York: | E. Bliss & E. White, 128 Broadway. | Clayton & Van Norden, Printers. | 1825.

Vol. II, December, 1825–May, 1826.

New York Literary Gazette and American Atheneum, May 13, 1826, to August 26, 1826.

In May, 1826, the New York Review and the American Atheneum were united with the Literary Gazette under the above title. October 1, 1826, these two were united under the new title of United States Review and Literary Gazette.

The Atlantic Souvenir; a Christmas and New Year's Offering, 1826. Philadelphia: H. C. Carey & I. Lea.

Bryant's two contributions are—June, pp. 64–66, and Oh Fairest of the Rural Maids, p. 135.

1827.

The | United States | Review and Literary Gazette. | Vol. I. | From October 1, 1826, to April 1, 1827. | New York: | G.

and C. Carvill, 108 Broadway. | Boston: | Bowles and Dearborn, 72 Washington Street, | 1827.

Vol. II, April, 1827, to October, 1827.

The above series form such an important page in the history of magazine literature that a few words of explanation are appended with the hope of throwing some light upon the origin of these various publications, and Mr. Bryant's connection with them.

The first one of the series was The United States Literary Gazette of Boston, the first number being issued in April, 1824, under the editorship of Theophilus Parsons, afterward so well known as professor in the Cambridge Law School.

There was at this same time established in New York a monthly periodical under the title of The Atlantic Magazine, edited by Robert C. Sands, the first number appearing in May. The editorship was assumed by Henry J. Anderson, afterward Professor of Mathematics in Columbia College. This periodical was continued through two volumes until April, 1825, when its name was changed to The New York Review and Atheneum Magazine. This periodical ran through two volumes until May, 1826, when it was joined with another publication known under the title of the New York Literary Gazette and Phi Beta Kappa Repository. The title of the new periodical was The New York Literary Gazette and American Atheneum.

The New York Literary Gazette was first known under the title of The Minerva or Literary Entertaining and Scientific Journal, and was edited by George Houston and James G. Brooks. This periodical ran through three volumes, the first number appearing April 10, 1824, the last, September, 1825.

In March, 1825, Mr. Brooks became sole editor, and in September he started a new publication under the title of The New York Literary Gazette and Phi Beta Kappa Repository. This ran from September 10, 1825, to March 4, 1826, in May of the same year its title being again changed as stated above to The New York Literary Gazette and American Atheneum.

Bryant became joint-editor with Mr. Anderson of The New York Review and Atheneum Magazine, and when in October, 1826, the periodical mentioned above was merged with the

United States Gazette of Boston under the title of The United States Review and Literary Gazette, Mr. Bryant still continued as the New York editor of the new publication, Mr. James G. Carter being the Boston editor.

Bryant's contributions to these periodicals will be found in the Chronology of his Poems.

1826.

Miscellaneous Poems | Selected from the | United States Literary Gazette. | Boston: | Cummings, Hilliard & Company, | and Harrison Gray. | 1826.

Collation: 18mo, pp. 172. Title as above. Copyright on verso, January 2, 1826. Advertisement, unpaged, verso blank. Contents, pp. i–iv. Text, pp. 1–172.

1828.

The Talisman for 1828, 1829, 1830. Published by Elam Bliss, Broadway, New York.

This work was published as an Annual in three 12mo vols., with numerous illustrations by prominent American artists.

Collation: The Talisman, 1828. 12mo, pp. 288. Engraved frontispiece. False title-page engraved. Title-page. Certificate of copyright on verso, dated 1827. Preface, pp. iii–x, signed Francis Herbert, a *nom de guerre* for R. C. Sands, dated New York, December 1, 1827. Contents, unpaged. List of embellishments, unpaged. Two embellishments, unpaged. Etruscan antiquities, vase of flowers. Text, pp. 1–288.

This publication was the joint production of G. C. Verplanck, W. C. Bryant, and Robert C. Sands. Bryant's contributions for 1828 were: A Scene on the Banks of the Hudson, The Hurricane, sonnet—William Tell, The Legend of the Devil's Pulpit, The Close of Autumn, and The Cascade of Melsingah.

1829.

The Talisman, 1829, 12mo, pp. 342. Bryant's contributions for 1829 were: Recollections of the South of Spain, Moriscan Romance, To the Past, Lament of Romero, Story of the Island

of Cuba, The Greek Boy, The Hunter's Serenade, Reminiscences of New York.

1830.

The Talisman, 1830, 12mo, pp. 358.

Bryant's contributions for 1830 were: To the Evening Wind, The Indian Spring, Love and Folly, The Whirlwind, song—When the Firmament quivers with Daylight's Young Beam, The Siesta, song—Innocent Child and Snow-white Flower, To the River Arve, Early Spanish Poetry, Eva, The Alcayde of Molina, The Death of Aliatar, Phanette des Gantelmes, The Marriage Blunder, To Cole the Painter, on his departure for Europe, Reminiscences of New York, No. 11.

1830.

The American Landscape. No. 1. Containing the following views: Weehawken, Catskill Mountains, Fort Putnam, Delaware Water Gap, Falls of the Sawkill, Winnipisiogee Lake. Engraved from original and accurate drawings, executed from Nature expressly for this work from well-authenticated pictures, with historical and topographical illustrations. New York, published by Elam Bliss, 1830.

Collation: 4to. Title as above. Engraved cover by J. Smillie, subject, Mambrino's Helmet. Letter-press, pp. 16, including title-page. Prospectus, pp. 2. The American Landscape, signed by A. B. Durand and E. Waite, Jr., dated New York, December 23, 1830. Preface, pp. 2, signed by William Cullen Bryant. Illustrations (six); proof impressions on India paper. No. 1. All published.

The letter-press of this publication was to have been entirely by Mr. Bryant, and the work was to have consisted of views of well-known American scenery by eminent artists. It proved a failure, and ceased with the first number.

1832.

Tales of the Glauber Spa, by several American authors. [Catherine Sedgwick, J. K. Paulding, W. C. Bryant, R. C.

Sands, and William Leggett.] In two volumes. New York: J. and J. Harper, 1832.

12mo, I, pp. 276; II, pp. 263.

Bryant's two contributions are both in Vol. I, The Skeleton's Cave, pp. 193–227, and Medfield, pp. 243–276.

This compilation was to have been called The Sextad, from the number of authors engaged upon it, but Verplanck withdrew, leaving only five.

1833.

Miscellanies. | First published under the name of The | Talisman. | By | G. C. Verplanck, | W. C. Bryant, | and | Robert C. Sands. | In three volumes. | Illustrated with fine engravings. | Vol. I. | Elam Bliss, New York. | MDCCCXXXIII.

Collation: Vol. I. 12mo, pp. 288. Illustrated frontispiece. Title as above. Copyright on verso. Advertisement of the publishers. Verso, blank. Preface, pp. iii–x, dated New York, December 1, 1827, signed Francis Herbert. Contents, unpaged. List of embellishments, unpaged. Two embellishments, unpaged. Etruscan antiquities. Vase, flowers. Text, pp. 1–288.

Identical in size and contents with The Talisman.

Volume II, 12mo, pp. 342.

Volume III, 12mo, pp. 358.

All the original illustrations, prefaces, etc., reproduced from Talisman.

1834.

The | Atlantic Club-Book, | being | Sketches in Prose and Verse, | by | various Authors. | In two volumes. | New York: | 1834.

8vo, I, pp. 312. II, pp. 312.

These volumes are composed of a number of pieces compiled from the columns of the New York Mirror.

Bryant's contributions occur on p. 49, vol. i, Song of Marion's Men; p. 217, vol. i, The Robber; p. 92, vol. ii, August.

1839.

The Jubilee of the Constitution. A discourse delivered at the request of the New York Historical Society. New York,

Tuesday, April 30, 1839; being the fiftieth anniversary of the inauguration of George Washington as President of the United States. By John Quincy Adams. New York, 1839.

8vo, pp. 136.

On p. 124 is an Ode, by Mr. Bryant, in four stanzas, Great were the Hearts, and Strong the Minds, written for the occasion.

1840.

Harper's | Family Library. | No. CXI. | Selections | from | American Poets. | By | William Cullen Bryant. | New York: | [1840.]

18mo, pp. 136.

1842.

A Discourse occasioned by the Death of William Ellery Channing, D. D., pronounced before the Unitarian Societies of New York and Brooklyn, in the Church of the Messiah, October 13, 1842. By Henry W. Bellows. New York, 1842.

8vo, pp. 28.

On p. 27 is an original hymn of three stanzas by Bryant, While yet the Harvest Fields are White.

1847.

The True Position of the Church in Relation to the Age. A discourse delivered at the dedication of the Church of the Saviour, Wednesday, November 10, 1847. By R. C. Waterston. Boston, 1847.

8vo, pp. 40.

On p. 40 is a Dedication Hymn by Mr. Bryant in four stanzas, Ancient of Days! except Thou Deign.

1852.

The Home Book of the Picturesque; or, American Scenery, Art, and Literature. Thirteen steel engravings. New York: Putnam, 1852.

4to, pp. 188.

Bryant's contribution is The Valley of the Housatonic, pp. 155–160, with engraving.

1853.

Homes | of | American Authors. | New York: G. Putnam & Co. | 10 Park Place, 1853.

Sq. 8vo, pp. viii–267.

Bryant's contribution is a sketch of William Gilmore Simms, p. 257.

1855.

The | Knickerbocker Gallery. | A Testimonial | to the Editor of the | Knickerbocker Magazine. | From its Contributors. | With forty-eight portraits on steel. | From original pictures. | Engraved expressly for this work. | New York, 1855.

4to, pp. xiv + 505.

Bryant's contribution is the Snow Shower, p. 81.

1856.

Celebration of the Two-hundredth Anniversary of the Incorporation of Bridgewater, Mass., at West Bridgewater, June 3, 1856., etc. Frontispiece and portrait. Boston, 1856.

8vo, pp. 167.

On pp. 18–19 is an ode by Mr. Bryant of seven stanzas, Two Hundred Times has June Renewed.

[This Ode occurs again on pp. 70–71 of Celebration of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Settlement of Hadley, Mass., at Hadley, June 8, 1859, etc., Northampton, 1859.

8vo, pp. 98.]

1858.

Memorial of Jessie Willis: prepared for her Little Daughters, Annie, Blanche, and Jessie, by their Father. New York: April, 1858. [For private circulation.]

12mo, pp. 75.

On pp. 14–15 is a letter from Bryant to Mr. Willis.

1859.

Gifts of Genius: | A Miscellany | of | Prose and Poetry | by | American Authors, | New York: | Printed for C. A. Davenport. | [1859.]

8vo, pp. xii + 264.

Bryant's contributions are To the Public, pp. vii–viii, dated

N. Y., June, 1859, and Bocage's Penitential Sonnet, from the Portuguese, p. 264.

1860.

Helen Ruthven Waterston. [A memorial.] Printed, not published. Boston, 1860.

8vo, pp. 76.

Two extracts from Bryant's Letters are given on pp. 12–13 and 51.

1862.

Only Once. Original Papers, by various contributors. Portraits of Bryant, Lowell, and Catherine Sedgwick. New York, 1862.

4to, pp. 16.

On p. 5 is a poem by Mr. Bryant, The Better Age.

1863.

Imperial Courts | of | France, England, Russia, Prussia, | Sardinia, Austria. | Richly illustrated with | Portraits of Imperial Sovereigns | and their | Cabinet Ministers, | with | Biographical Sketches | and | an Introduction by William Cullen Bryant. | Edited by W. H. Bidwell. | New York, | 1863.

Royal 8vo, pp. xiv–411.

1863.

Songs of the War. Part I. Albany, J. Munsell, 1863.

16mo, pp. 96.

Bryant's contribution is Our Country's Call, pp. 12–13.

1864.

The Spirit of the Fair. Tuesday, April 5, 1864. New York.

4to, pp. 206.

Bryant's contribution is A Morceau from Metastasio, p. 9.

1864.

A Year in China; and a narrative of capture and imprisonment, when homeward bound, on board the rebel pirate Florida. By Mrs. H. Dwight Williams. With an introductory note by William Cullen Bryant. New York, 1864.

12mo, pp. xvi+362.

The Introductory Note is on pp. xiii–xvi.

1865.

Poetical Tributes | to the | Memory of | Abraham Lincoln. | Philadelphia, | 1865.

8vo, pp. 306.

Bryant's contribution is the first, an Ode, on p. 13.

1865.

The Lincoln Memorial: A Record of the Life, Assassination, and Obsequies of the Martyred President. New York, 1865. Portrait and woodcut title-page.

8vo, pp. 288.

On p. 205 is Bryant's Ode for the Funeral of Abraham Lincoln, and on pp. 205–206 three stanzas of A New National Hymn, composed by Mr. Bryant at the request of the reader [Dr. Samuel Osgood], and circulated among a few personal friends, and beginning, Oh, North, with all thy Vales of Green.

1866.

Obsequies of Abraham Lincoln, in the City of New York. Under the Auspices of the Common Council. By David T. Valentine. Portrait and illustrations. New York, 1866.

Royal 8vo, pp. 254.

Bryant's Ode, which had appeared in Poetical Tributes, 1865, is on p. 191.

1868.

The League [Published for American Free Trade League]. No. 10. New York, 1868.

4to, pp. 105–116.

On p. 105 is a letter dated January 18, 1868, accepting the invitation to a dinner, given by the American Free Trade League, in his honor, January 30th.

1868.

A Landscape Book, by American Artists and American Authors. Sixteen steel engravings. New York: Putnam, 1868.

8vo, pp. [4] + 108.

Bryant's contributions are three: Catterskill Falls (pp. 30–

33), with engraving; The Valley of the Housatonic (pp. 38–43), originally published in the Home Book of the Picturesque, 1852; and A Summer Ramble (pp. 63–65).

1868.

Banquet to His Excellency Anson Burlingame, and his Associates of the Chinese Embassy, by the Citizens of New York, on Tuesday, June 23, 1868. New York, 1868.

8vo, pp. 65.

On p. 64 is a letter from Bryant dated Roslyn, June 9, 1868, to Elliot C. Cowdin, declining his invitation to the banquet.

1868.

The Atlantic Almanac, 1868. Edited by O. W. Holmes and Donald G. Mitchell. Illustrated. Boston.

Royal 8vo, pp. 76.

On p. 47 is The Planting of the Apple-tree.

1870.

The Atlantic Almanac. 1870.

Royal 8vo, pp. 72.

On pp. 53–56 is The Breaking of the Truce. (From the Fourth Book of the Iliad.)

1871.

Memorial Record in Memory of Hon. Increase Sumner, of Great Barrington, Mass. Portrait. Bridgeport, 1871.

8vo, pp. 74.

On p. 28 is a letter from Bryant, dated December 14, 1870, declining an invitation to a banquet of the Berkshire Bar, the last meeting of Judge Sumner with his professional colleagues.

1871.

Workday Christianity; or, the Gospel in the Trades. By Alexander Clark. With an introductory note by William Cullen Bryant. Philadelphia, 1871.

12mo, pp. x + 300.

The Introductory Note, dated New York, March 16, 1870, is on pp. vii–viii.

1871.

A Library | of Poetry and Song. | Being | Choice Selections from the Best Poets. | With an introduction by William Cullen Bryant. New York: | J. B. Ford & Co., 1871.

Royal 8vo, pp. xxxii–789, with Frontispiece—portrait of Bryant. Introduction, pp. xxiii–xxxi.

1871.

II. Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society for May, June, July, and August, 1871.

8vo, pp. 81–156.

On p. 155 is a letter dated Cummington, August 9, 1871, to the Rev. R. C. Waterston, declining an invitation to the celebration of the hundredth anniversary of Scott's birth.

1872–'74.

Picturesque America | or | The Land we live in. | A Delineation by Pen and Pencil | of | The Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Forests, Waterfalls, Shores, Cañons, Valleys, Cities and other Picturesque Features of our Country. | With illustrations on steel and wood | by Eminent American Artists. | Edited by William Cullen Bryant. | Issued in Nos. | New York: | D. Appleton and Company. | 1872 and 1874.

2 vols., 4to.

1873.

St. Nicholas, Vol. I, No. 1. November, 1873. New York.

8vo, pp. 48.

On p. 2 is Bryant's translation from the Spanish, The Woodman and the Sandal Tree.

1875.

The Bryant Celebration by the Chicago Literary Club, November 3, 1874. Chicago, 1875.

8vo, 33 pages.

On p. 11, Letter from Bryant dated Roslyn, October 27, 1874, to the Rev. Robert Collyer, President of the Chicago Literary Club. On pp. 18–19, 24 lines of A Poem addressed to Mr A. Bryant, Brookfield, May, 1809, written in the poet's

fifteenth year, and beginning, Once more the Bard, with Eager Eye, Reviews.

1876.

Laurel Leaves. Original Poems, Stories, and Essays. Illustrated. Boston, 1876.

4to, pp. xv + 446.

Bryant's contributions are two poems from the Spanish, The Price of a Pleasure (p. 53) and The Woodman and the Sandal Tree (p. 54; see preceding item), besides a prose selection, The Poet Goethe (pp. 177–186), an address delivered at the Goethe Celebration, New York, September, 1875.

1876.

Custer's Immortality. A poem, with biographical sketches of the chief actors in the late Tragedy of the Wilderness. By Laura S. Webb. New York, Evening Post Press, [1876].

12mo, pp. 72.

With facsimile letter of one page from Bryant to the author.

1876.

New York Tribune. Extra No. 33. Independence Day Orations, July 4, 1876.

8vo, pp. 64.

On p. 64 is a Centennial Ode by Mr. Bryant of four stanzas, Through Storm and Calm the Years have Led, sung at New York, July 4, 1876.

1876.

The Centennial Celebration of American Independence, at the Academy of Music, New York, July 4, 1876. Hon. John A. Dix, presiding, with the Oration and the other exercises.

8vo, pp. 81.

Centennial Ode on fourth leaf, unpaged.

1876.

Memoir of Dr. Samuel Gridley Howe. By Julia Ward Howe: with other memorial tributes. Published by the Howe Memorial Committee. Portrait. Boston, 1876.

8vo, pp. 128.

On pp. 123, 124 is a letter from Bryant to the Hon. F. W. Bird, Chairman of the Committee.

1876.

St. Nicholas, Vol. IV, No. 2, December, 1876. New York.
8vo, pp. 65–152.
The Boys of my Boyhood, pp. 99–103.

1877.

Studies in Bryant. | A Text-Book | by | Joseph Alden, D. D., | of the State Normal School at Albany. | With an Introduction | by | William Cullen Bryant. | New York: | D. Appleton and Company, 1, 3, and 5 Bond Street. | 1877.
12mo, pp. 127. Introduction, pp. 5–10.

1877.

A New | Library of Poetry and Song. | Edited by | William Cullen Bryant. | Published in parts. New York, 1877.
4to, 2 vols.
Portrait frontispiece. | Introduction, pp. 7–14.

1878.

A Popular History | of | The United States | From the | First Discovery of the Western Hemisphere | By the Northmen, To the end of the | First Century of the Union | of the States. | Preceded by a sketch of the Pre-Historic Period and the | Age of the Mound Builders. | By William Cullen Bryant | and | Sydney Howard Gay. | Fully Illustrated. | New York: | Charles Scribner's Sons, | Successors to | Scribner, Armstrong & Co. | 1878.

Collation: 4 vols., royal 8vo, with complete index. Published in monthly parts. Frontispiece, Portrait of Bryant, and Preface by Wm. C. Bryant, pp. vii–xxiv.

1878.

The Sunday School Times, Vol. XX, No. 8. Philadelphia, February 22, 1878.
4to, pp. 113–128.

On p. 113 is a poem by Bryant, his last contribution to any newspaper or magazine, The Twenty-second of February, six stanzas beginning, Pale is the February Sky.

This was a special number of The Sunday School Times. The editorial is followed in the second column by Bryant's poem, and two paragraphs, Religious Patriotism, by Edward Eggleston, D. D., and The Face of Washington, by Joseph Cook. Then follow contributions by President Hayes and the Governors of thirteen States.

1879.

Thoughts | on | The Religious Life | by | Joseph Alden, D. D., LL. D. | Author of The Science of Government, Studies in Bryant, etc. | With an introduction | by | William Cullen Bryant. | New York: | G. P. Putnam's Sons, | 182 Fifth Avenue, | 1879.

12mo, 129 pp., brown covers with outside title. Introduction, pp. 7–12.

1886.

Complete Works of Shakespeare. Edited by W. C. Bryant, assisted by E. A. Duyckinck. Illustrated.

3 volumes, 4to, New York, 1886.

Bryant wrote the Preface to this edition, the actual work of editing having been done by Mr. Duyckinck.

BIOGRAPHIES OF MR. BRYANT

1828.

The | Critic. | A Weekly Review of Literature, Fine Arts, | and the Drama. | Edited by William Leggett.

Volume I, from November 1, 1828, to May 2, 1829.

Biography of William Cullen Bryant, pp. 105–107, December 13, 1828.

The present copy contains Vol. I, through May 2, 1829, and the beginning of a second volume, pp. 1–96, seven numbers, May 9, May 16, May 23, May 30, June 6, June 13, June 20. On p. 89 is a notice signed by the editor, announcing the suspension of publication.

1846.

Thoughts on the Poets. By Henry T. Tuckerman. New York, 1846.

12mo, pp. 318.

Biography, pp. 303–318.

1854.

Off-hand Takings; or, Crayon Sketches of the Noticeable Men of our Age. By George W. Bungay. Illustrated. New York, 1854.

12mo, pp. 408.

Biography of Bryant, pp. 309–315, with steel portrait.

1877.

Men of Mark. By Edwin P. Whipple. Atlas Series, No. 2. New York, 1877.

8vo, pp. 270.

Biography of Bryant by Ray Palmer, pp. 102–126.

1883.

A Biography | of | William Cullen Bryant, | with | Extracts from his private Correspondence | by | Parke Godwin. | In two volumes. | New York: | D. Appleton and Company, 1883.
8vo.

1886.

Bryant and his Friends. Some Reminiscences of the Knickerbocker Writers. By James Grant Wilson. New York, 1886.
Bryant and his Friends, pp. 11–127.

1890.

William Cullen Bryant. By John Bigelow. American Men of Letters Series. Boston, 1890.

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES, ETC.

1878.

Bryant Memorial Meeting of the Century, Tuesday Evening, November 12, 1878. Century Rooms, New York.

8vo, 74 pages, including title, and a portrait of Bryant engraved by H. B. Hall, Jr.

1878.

The Life, Character, and Writings of William Cullen Bryant. A Commemorative Address delivered before the New York Historical Society, at the Academy of Music, December 30, 1878. By George William Curtis. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 743 and 745 Broadway.

8vo, false title, title, pp. 8–64.

1878.

Tribute to William Cullen Bryant. By Robert C. Waterston, at the meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society, June 13, 1878. With an Appendix. Boston: Press of John Wilson & Son, 1878.

8vo, 54 pages, including title.

Contains the ancestry of Bryant, several pieces by Bryant, and an account of the circumstances under which they were written and published, numerous anecdotes, and a verbatim reprint of Bryant's last address on unveiling the Bust of Mazzini in Central Park.

1878.

In Memoriam, William Cullen Bryant. Funeral Oration, June 14, 1878. By H. W. Bellows, D. D. New York, 1878.

8vo, pp. 11.

1879.

The Bryant Memorial Meeting of the Goethe Club of the City of New York, Wednesday, October 30, 1878. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 182 Fifth Avenue, 1879.

8vo, 56 pages, including title, portrait of Bryant, coat with "frogs" prefixed.

As originally published, this Memorial had a paper cover, with a list of Members of the Goethe Club on p. 3. The Oration, Bryant among his Countrymen, the Poet, the Patriot, the Man, by Dr. Samuel Osgood, was published separately, 1879, 8vo, pp. 34.

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